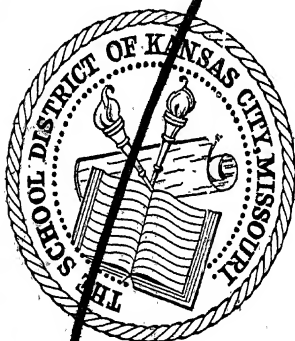


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# PUTNAM'S HANDBOOK OF EXPRESSION

FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF CONVERSATION,  
WRITING, AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

COMPILED BY  
EDWIN HAMLIN CARR



G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS  
NEW YORK LONDON  
The Knickerbocker Press

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VIOLENCE  
OR

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Under the title "The Happy Phrase"

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171

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To

ANY PERSON WHO RECOGNIZES HEREIN ONE OF HIS  
OWN ORIGINAL PHRASES





## *Foreword*

---

### FOREWORD

So far as I know, there is no book which is distinctively a phrase book. Because of this fact, I have for years been collecting phrases from all sources. Whenever and wherever I have found in any volume, magazine, newspaper, or during conversation, a distinctive phrase I have made a note of it.

This volume is the result of an endeavor to classify these phrases so that the reader may secure a synonymous phrase as, in a book of synonyms, he secures a synonymous word.

It would be difficult for me to give credit for every phrase found in this book. In fact, it would be impossible to determine who are the authors of the larger number of our English phrases. I have, however, found in certain books a number of phrases so distinctive and characteristic that it is only proper to give due credit to the authors.

The novels of Dumas have supplied a great number of phrases for conversation, and I have found good material also in the correspondence of Mrs. Hannah More.

## Foreword

---

Many general phrases have been derived from the writings of Thackeray, and the Essays of Samuel McCord Crothers.

For sermonic phrases I have found the writings of the Rev. Thomas Guthrie, D.D., and the Rev. J. H. Jowett, D.D., particularly helpful.

Men who have ability to make new phrases may be pleased to have at hand a book of this kind.

The clergyman who begins his every observation with "It seems to me" and continues "Along that line," will find here a variety of prefatory and introductory phrases.

Teachers who make a habit of adding new words and new phrases to their speech will doubtless find good browsing here.

There is perhaps no more difficult letter to write than one of condolence. A number of phrases are given under this designation, in order to assist in this most difficult and yet most blessed task.

Since we talk in phrases as well as in words, every home needs a phrase book as well as a dictionary.

I wish to make grateful acknowledgment to James Baldwin, author of *The Book Lover*, and to Miss Isobel Stevenson, of the New York City Public Library, for valuable suggestions con-

## *Foreword*

---

cerning the arrangement of the book, and to Prof. Charles Knapp, of Barnard College, New York City, for assistance concerning the Foreign Phrases.

E. H. C.



## *Using the Phrases*

---

### USING THE PHRASES

The entire volume should be perused for phrases which appeal to one's taste. These should be marked and memorized, and it will be noticed that they will spring spontaneously to the lips or pen.

A suggestion for a determined effort to use the phrases may be found in R. L. Stevenson's practice of inventing a conversation. He says in his *Vailima Letters*, vol. i., p. 105:

"Though I write so little, I pass all my hours of field-work in continual converse and imaginary correspondence. I scarce pull up a weed, but I invent a sentence on the matter to yourself; it does not get written; but the intent is there, and for me (in some sort) the companionship. To-day, for instance, we had a great talk. I was toiling, the sweat dripping from my nose, in the hot fit after a squall of rain: methought you asked me—frankly, was I happy. Happy (said I); I was only happy once; that was at Hyères."



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# I

## Phrases for Conversation



## *Complimentary of Things*

---

### COMPLIMENTARY OF THINGS

How delightfully cozy  
This is the sort of thing I enjoy  
I like the idea very much  
That's simply splendid  
There is an unfailing charm in it  
A delightful idea truly  
I like it prodigiously  
Is n't that jolly  
It bears the stamp of excellence  
It is worthy of high praise  
Of first-rate merit  
I was highly pleased with it  
It was in the best taste  
It is worthy of a world of praise  
It is a beautiful piece of industrial accomplish-  
ment  
I call it a delightful spectacle  
A capital idea  
Altogether a fine thing  
A sentiment worthy of emulation  
A source of constant pleasure  
A very real asset  
With none of the slight faults of immaturity

## *Conversation*

---

It is an uplifting habit  
The sight filled me with admiration  
Of no ordinary cleverness  
It was perfectly splendid  
It is a fine instance of  
It called forth unqualified admiration  
It was strikingly impressive  
The result exceeded my most sanguine expectations  
The finest flower that ever blossomed  
It is an amiable habit by no means to be discouraged

## CORDIALITY

I am delighted to make your acquaintance,  
though indeed I seem to know a great deal  
about you through  
I am looking forward to having a good talk with  
you  
It is a great pleasure to me to welcome you  
I am very impatient to learn how you are progressing  
You are most welcome, I was expecting you  
How happy we are to see you, you have become  
almost a stranger to us  
I must have a chat with you soon

## *Courtesy*

---

I am delighted to see you here  
It is a great pleasure to have met you  
I would be delighted to talk with you but unfortunately I am very hurried  
I trust we shall soon meet again  
I warmly regret being unable to oblige you  
I am mightily glad to see you

## COURTESY

Kindly convey my warmest regards to  
I beg your acceptance of my very hearty thanks  
for  
Be so good as to present my most respectful  
compliments to  
You are most kind  
Please do not give yourself that trouble  
I am delighted to have your approbation  
Tell him that we will do ourselves the pleasure  
of calling on him  
You anticipate my wishes  
I thank you very much  
I have great pleasure in being useful to you  
You are very obliging  
Permit me to thank you  
I wish you a pleasant journey  
On the contrary, I ought to thank you very  
heartily



## *Conversation*

---

Please accept this as a slight token of my  
gratitude

I hope my coming will not put you to any incon-  
venience

I wish you a safe and pleasant journey

I trust I shall have an opportunity of returning  
your kindness

I beg you to excuse me

I am sorry it is not in my power

I am very sorry I cannot assist you

I offer my most sincere apology

I wish you good morning

I want to thank you for all your kindness

I am much improved in health, I thank you

Pardon my indiscretion

I do not know how to respond to such kindness

The only recompense I can make you is good will

I thank you for the compliment

I hope you enjoy your usual health

How did he bear his misfortune

I hope you will favor us with a call

Tell me some more particulars

May I give you some assistance

Does the game of —— please your fancy

May I have the honor of your company

May I ask whether

Will you do me the kindness to

Will you do me the favor to tell me

## *Conventional—Apologetic*

---

Is not this a characteristic of  
How do you understand it  
What has procured me so flattering a distinction  
To whom is he indebted for the place  
Aren't you going  
Did you say that you were there  
I thank you for your kind inquiries  
Don't let me detain you for doubtless you have  
engagements

### CONVENTIONAL—AT WEDDINGS

I wish you much joy  
Let me wish you every happiness  
I wish to offer you my heartiest congratulations  
I congratulate you heartily on the good fortune  
that is yours to-day  
Kindly accept my sincerest good wishes  
It is impossible to wish you any greater good  
fortune than you have had to-day  
Please accept my congratulations  
Hearty congratulations

### CONVENTIONAL—APOLOGETIC

I must apologize for my stupidity  
This is quite unforgivable, I fear  
I am very awkward, pray forgive me

## *Conversation*

---

I beg you will excuse me  
I regret that I cannot assist you  
It is with no small regret that  
I am exceedingly sorry that your request comes  
to me at a time when I am so pressed by my  
own affairs, that I cannot, with any convenience,  
comply with it  
I offer my most sincere apology  
Pardon my indiscretion

### CONVENTIONAL—CONDOLENCE

Kindly accept my sincere esteem and sympathy  
I beg to offer my profound sympathy  
We all share in your loss, and you have my  
deepest sympathy  
I sympathize with you in your great affliction  
I wish to assure you of my heartfelt sympathy  
I could not refrain from assuring you in person  
of my sincerest sympathy  
We can all splendidly trust God in life, no matter  
what its vicissitudes, if we but feel that we  
are drawn nearer to Him  
Please accept my sincere condolences

### CONVENTIONAL—ON LEAVING A HOST

This has been a delightful occasion  
This has been a most enjoyable evening

## *Conventional—Being Introduced*

---

I am under the greatest obligation to you for a  
charming evening

I have enjoyed this little glimpse of you very  
much

This has been a most agreeable experience

It has been delightful to have you with us

I hope you may be persuaded to come again

I wish you were not going quite so soon

Come to see us again before you leave town

I trust you will repeat this experience at some  
future date

I want to make my parting compliments

### CONVENTIONAL—ON BEING INTRODUCED

I am very happy to meet you

It is a great pleasure to meet you

I am delighted to know you

I am sure the pleasure is mine also

I was not clever enough to catch your name

Thank you, I appreciate your kindly thought of  
me

It has been a great pleasure to have met you

I am delighted to make your acquaintance,  
though indeed I seem to know a great deal  
about you through

You are most kind

It is a great pleasure

It is good of you to say so

## *Conversation*

---

### CONGRATULATORY

I cannot refrain from expressing my admiring  
appreciation of

You are to be congratulated upon the

I wish to congratulate you, and express my ap-  
preciation of

Will you permit me to make an acknowledg-  
ment of appreciation to you for

Permit me to make appreciative acknowledg-  
ments of

Please accept my congratulations upon your

Since the news of the joy that has happened to  
you reached me, I have been anxious to  
write you a word of congratulation

I congratulate you on the very fortunate oppor-  
tunity which presents itself

I had the great pleasure of hearing that

I take this opportunity of assuring you that

It is with great pleasure I hear of your safe  
arrival

### COMMENDATORY OF PERSONS

He is a perpetual surprise even to those who  
know him best

She is a charming person to set people at their  
ease

He is a noble character

## *Commendatory of Persons*

---

She talked beautifully  
He is a man of many fascinations  
He has a fine face full of vigor  
He is very patient and very brave  
We have beautiful neighbors  
I never have seen you looking in better health  
You are looking as lovely as usual  
They form a delightful group  
How lovely these are  
With him there is little seeking after effect  
I always thought the hour struck sooner in your  
    home than anywhere else  
It is an evidence of good breeding  
He possesses the rare faculty of  
She is without a shadow of affectation  
He is incapable of hurting any one's feelings  
He possesses a masterly understanding of the  
    subject  
You have a very helpful suggestion  
He is irresistibly funny  
He is uncommonly quick  
He has a genuine aptitude for business  
A man whose merit equals his reputation  
He acquitted himself admirably  
He possesses a good deal of homely dignity  
He has the talent of dispensing pleasure  
He is finely qualified by exceptional educational  
    advantages

## *Conversation*

---

She is a very tender and indulgent mother  
He is full of generous sympathies  
He has considerable colloquial talents  
He has a sunny temperament  
He is quite an adroit flatterer  
He seems to have an inexhaustible supply of  
affection  
His modesty is worthy of wide imitation  
He is brimming over with new ideas  
He gives you a jolly shake of the hand  
He has a wonderful gift of making friends  
He has a circle of interesting friends  
There is something very likable about him  
He is truly regardful of the interests of  
others  
He cultivates the amenities and civilities  
He understands the art of making allowances  
He would shun to break the bounds of courtesy  
His polite best  
He is above the meanness of tale-bearing  
He spoke in language clear and expressive in the  
highest degree  
He spoke with his accustomed felicity of lan-  
guage  
It was a very neat and appropriate expression  
He labored in a simple and straightforward  
manner to  
He possesses nerves that seem to be of iron

## *Commendatory of Persons*

---

He is one who can do the thinking for a common-wealth

He has a character of sterling excellence

He is of consequence in the world

She is a model of propriety

There is an indefinable charm about her

He has an air of businesslike decisiveness

He is a facile talker

He is a plain frugal man

He is untinged by prejudice

He has a taste for polite conversation

He discharged his difficult task admirably

He was actuated by the most laudable motives

He never fumbles

He is always in such perfect good humor

He behaved very handsomely

He has calm good sense

He did it with good grace

He fitted his environment perfectly

You could not apply to any one better able  
than he

He made a most delightful impression

He is chock-full of fine sentiment

My heart warms toward him

He is a person whom I always recall with pleasure

His letters are full of heartiness

He has such a kindly and sympathetic spirit



## *Conversation*

---

He is every whit a man's man  
He has fine manners  
He acted as one to the manor born  
May his tribe increase  
He impressed me prodigiously  
He has the highest ideals of fine, clean, strong  
manhood  
She is possessed with the most delicate intuitions  
He possesses a certain suavity of manner  
She is of exceptional personal beauty  
He is above the average in point of conversation  
He took the hugest pains to accommodate us  
There is no more noble and beautiful character  
than she  
There was something captivating in his manner  
He was eloquent without being declamatory  
You will go a long way before you find a better  
man

## CRITICAL OF PERSONS

He is a rather crabbed specimen of humanity  
He gives me qualms  
He is insufferably tiresome

## *Critical of Persons*

---

I would as soon take Beelzebub himself into my  
plans

I can nowise explain what sort of whim, prank,  
or perversity it was that induced him to  
act thus

Unhappily one is so fettered by

What utter bosh it all is for him to

He is bereft of his senses

He is a selfish, graceless, thankless person

He is insufferably mean

He is an odious old reprobate

He makes such idiotic excuses

His appearance is peculiarly forbidding

You will receive the passport to disfavor if you

He is in constant danger of becoming mean  
and sordid

We are not all of that ilk

The suspicion arises in at least some minds, that  
the reprehensible art of lying has several  
practitioners in this country

Men who scold and whine, and prophesy ill

He is not able to get the right perspective

We are quite reluctant to follow his lead

He has no ground of complaint

He will have about his ears a unanimous chorus  
of derision and bitterness

He presented a series of lame apologies

He is in no small degree responsible for

## *Conversation*

---

He is exceedingly dull

He cuts a sorry figure

His manner lacks sincerity without which no  
one can be truly agreeable

He is the prey of every passing circumstance

He is positively without a spark of humor

He is ponderously dull

He lapsed into arrant triviality

He emphasizes the defects

He has a great propensity for running into debt

He fails to see the need of making plentiful  
provision

His message might have been more fitly worded

He has no sense of the fitness of things

More foolish words were never spoken in reply  
to a serious argument

His conclusions are hopelessly detached from  
his premises

He is quite incapable of generous sentiments

The real difficulty against which he has butted  
head down is

I am in a critical spirit

The theory has gone into bankruptcy

It is cheap and ignorant talk

He is stupidly over-confident

I asked him how he could vindicate such an  
enormity

He is a derelict of mankind

## *Critical of Persons*

---

He is an acrimonious critic  
He has the baneful habit of  
He is a mere bungler  
He has a desert in his mind  
He is apt to be malicious  
He has a sullen and uncommunicable disposition  
A man who never had a taste or emotion but  
    what was sordid  
He is over-quick in reproof  
He richly deserves his fate ;  
A village pest  
More nice than wise  
An insufferable bore  
A wearisome grumbler  
A devilish insinuating way of  
A most inadequate notion of  
Altogether discreditable  
I will not use terms of endearment  
He takes himself and his cause always with  
    equal seriousness  
Equally bad  
He is handling the affair with a mixture of supineness and imbecility  
He follows the line of least resistance  
He unwittingly plays into the hands of the enemy  
He is full of moral cowardice and dissimulation

## Conversation

---

He lives in his little provincial world  
He has never given a hint of practical value  
He is always whimpering for help  
His thoughts are always vague and ill-defined  
He is a lazy, lolling sort of human  
That was a sensible admonition directed against  
his silly talk  
He is charged with exaggeration if not willful  
distortion of the facts of the case

## DISSENT

I protested in vain  
It would simply freeze my blood if  
I was awakened for the first time to its full significance when .  
In which case I should remonstrate  
It is enough to turn one's brain  
That's the very thing I complain of  
What hurt my feelings was that nothing I could  
say would do any good  
It is monstrous  
It is shocking  
The very heart and soul of justice have been  
plucked out of her unresisting carcass  
It is a stupid thing to do, to my mind, and I  
don't see the point  
It is preposterous

## *Dissent*

---

It's absurd  
I remonstrated at the time  
It is certainly not a very pleasant thing to  
    think that  
I cannot refrain from expressing my regret  
    that  
I am distracted with the cares of  
It is really heartbreaking to see  
It is very annoying to me  
I can scarcely credit it  
The uncertainty is irritating  
It puts me in a decidedly awkward position  
He gave no very gracious consent  
I fervently hope not  
Decidedly not  
Figures don't lie, but often they do not speak  
    plain enough to be understood at the  
    first hearing  
You can ill afford to  
I loathe it  
I was exceedingly mortified that  
He might have sat for a picture of insensibility  
I assure you such is not the case  
It is scarcely worth raising our heads to look at  
I was nervous at the thought of it  
There is danger of an embarrassing rupture  
He was not slow in expressing his disgust at the  
    conduct of

## *Conversation*

---

I care not a fig who knows it  
It is a sore thing for me to have to do this  
Heaven forbid that such a thing should com  
to pass  
I know precisely what it signifies  
I think it would be quite inadvisable to do so  
He could out-slang the boldest bargeman  
The pitiful thing about it all is  
It is a manifest absurdity  
It is in a bad way  
The statement is the merest nonsense  
The latest and most absurd theory is  
I hate, abhor, sicken at it  
I want most emphatically to disclaim any in-  
tention of

## INQUIRY

What course shall you take to get your money?  
What do you know of his history?  
Where shall I be likely to find him?  
What has he there?  
Have you any news?  
What kind of man is he?  
When do you leave?  
Where do you intend to settle?  
Have you had luncheon?  
May I have an apple?

## *Prefatory*

---

Will you obey me?  
Have you had any tidings of your brother?  
What did you observe?  
In what part of the country do you live?  
Where are you staying?  
We spent an agreeable evening together.

### PREFATORY

As luck would have it, I  
To be candid, I  
It seems a positive calamity that  
Do you seriously imagine that  
No one could be so rash as to assert that  
I am satisfied that  
I strongly suspect that  
I fancy that  
Further than this  
Paradoxical as it may seem  
I dare say that  
It is with great pleasure that  
It would ill become me to remark that  
For instance  
The redeeming feature of it all is  
Quite by chance, I  
I have been wondering whether  
In all probability we  
It is not likely that



## *Conversation*

---

Luckily I

It is a singular coincidence that

I took particular pains to notice whether

It is with problems such as these that

How very fortunate it is that

It is a particular piece of good fortune that  
he

As a matter of fact

None the less, I

It can be admitted too that

Certain it is that

In some quarters it is believed that

If that be the case, I

I confess I look with some alarm at

I have the great good fortune to have heard  
that

I realize afresh that

The art of arts is

I flatter myself that

It is from the heart that I can request that

I am perfectly convinced that

The full gravity of the situation is seen in the  
fact that

Regardless of any thing I said

I am painfully conscious that

I wasn't by any means sure I

It dawned upon him gradually that

It is seldom that

## *Prefatory*

---

We may be quite sure that  
I have repeatedly said that  
It cannot but carry with it instant conviction  
that

By some mischance, I  
Prior to this, we  
I was greatly elated to find that  
I am heartily glad that  
I know the nicest little secret  
I had a happy thought to-day  
I cannot but realize that  
It is scarcely conceivable that  
Frankly, I  
It is intellectually unthinkable that  
On the other hand  
I appreciate most deeply the  
I am devoutly thankful for  
At all events  
None the less  
Hitherto  
Furthermore  
Further than that  
Nevertheless  
Notwithstanding  
In the meantime  
Frequently the  
In all candor  
I rather apprehend that

## *Conversation*

---

I have sometimes thought that  
It must be owned too, that  
I scarcely feel as if I  
I rather imagine that  
To this day I hardly know whether I  
A very striking proof of the fact is  
I will hazard the observation that  
On the other hand  
You have made me curious. Tell me of it  
I have news for you  
May I give you an instance  
It is quite indifferent to me whether I  
He used frequently to observe that  
What is the explanation? It is simplicity  
itself  
Now that I am a little seasoned I  
I have heard him often lament that  
You may guess what luck  
I regret extremely that  
It would have been quite out of the question  
for us to  
Recently I came across this  
I was about to inquire what you thought of  
I have the deepest veneration for  
He has conceived the happy idea of  
I suppose the inference we are expected to draw  
is  
I am confident of one thing that

## *Prefatory*

---

My principal motive for acting thus was  
I am fully aware that  
I perceive, moreover, that  
It is surely true that  
I marvel that  
I sometimes fancy that  
I humbly conceive that  
I apprehend that  
Of course, I am perfectly aware that  
I presume that  
There are pretty certain indications that  
It often amazes me that  
It seems hardly probable that  
I affirm that  
I have the consolation to hope that  
It is still permitted us to hope that  
It would be futile to deny that  
It is reasonable to assume that  
There is no prospect that  
In these circumstances it  
I suppose that  
I warrant that  
I confess I am not indifferent to  
I shrink instinctively from  
I confess a less and less relish for  
I am impatient and querulous under  
It is a sort of presumption to expect that  
I cannot imagine to myself

## Conversation

---

I have a kindly yearning toward  
I heartily approve of  
I do not advert to  
I have long believed that  
It has long been the fashion to  
I have been falsely assuring everybody that  
One cannot help noticing that  
There are plenty of evidences that  
The difference, I take it, is this  
The fact of the matter is  
If I rightly remember  
It is a just cause for praise that  
It was a happy circumstance for me that  
I wish with all my heart that  
I am grateful to find that  
I devoutly wish it may prove to be that he  
It is not to be supposed that  
My attention has been directed to the  
I have a mental reservation with regard to  
A very affecting circumstance happened yester-  
day  
I have a story worth telling  
I had the rare distinction of  
I had a very civil note from  
If I may hazard a conjecture, I should rather  
think  
It was unusual for me to  
He seems to be obsessed with the idea that

## *Prefatory*

---

There is but a thousand-to-one chance that  
It is an open secret that  
I have an impression that  
I informed you wrongly when I said that  
If I mistake not, I believe that  
If I may use the expression I think that  
Quite regardless of my remark, you  
I had the inexpressible comfort of knowing  
that

He made a touching proof of his regard by  
I flatter myself that  
Is it not a great mercy to have such a helper?  
Again and again, I  
Inadvertently, I  
I felt like uttering a mild disclaimer when  
I have little predilection for  
I had the rare satisfaction of  
I was strangely moved when I heard that  
There is a certain distinctive advantage in  
I was amazed to find that  
In my poor judgment, I  
I hold in all seriousness that  
Has the tide of victory set in your favor?  
By what magic have you found out the secrets  
of  
We have plumed ourselves upon our ability  
to

## *Conversation*

---

### RESPONSE

It is good of you to say so  
He is to be most warmly felicitated  
I have fallen into splendid hands  
How nicely you put that  
How lovely of you  
Those friends of yours are delightful people  
He is able to extract comfort and pleasure out of  
    hard experiences  
You decide rightly  
I was received with the utmost kindness  
I am quite delighted  
Permit me to compliment you  
How consoling you are  
I was never more entertained  
You got out of that rather neatly  
It is like talking the art of war before Hannibal  
I quite agree with you  
Very luckily for me  
You have not guessed rightly  
With all my heart  
We acquiesce  
That tends to confirm my opinion  
I will make ample allowance  
Don't give way to such a fancy  
How unfortunate  
I am glad to hear such good tidings of

## *Response*

---

I am a sort of amateur Father-Confessor, you  
know  
I am not as strong as I fancied myself  
A very extraordinary measure I confess  
A day that I still recall with pleasure  
We haggled about the price  
I fear I cannot go  
Surely none of us would relish such treatment  
He deems it well worth while  
I can make a guess as to the probable results  
I think it is about time to tincture our ideals  
with common sense  
It is most refreshing  
You have rightly judged  
She was strangely diffident  
He responded so good-naturedly  
He should be highly thankful  
Our effort was futile enough  
Very rarely  
Quite likely  
Unquestionably  
We have ample time  
Quite frequently  
It is all the most ardent supporter could wish  
Fortunately there is still a more excellent way  
I'm afraid he started the day in a contradictory  
mood  
He is never very closely confined to the facts



## *Conversation*

---

It is a sore trial to his temper  
The paper gives a beggarly account of the  
    affair  
I think I can do it without danger of repro-  
    bation  
I am trying to help him compose his difficulties  
He did it in all good faith  
I had the simple satisfaction of knowing that  
He is suffering from a confusion of ideas  
The exceptions are so few as to be negligible  
It is not expedient for us to do otherwise  
It was too sore a subject for levity  
I reciprocate your good wishes  
The matter was brought to a satisfactory  
    termination  
It was real stupid of me  
It completely surpasses my comprehension  
It caused me a thousand apprehensions  
The odds seem overwhelmingly against them  
I think she is a wee bit jealous  
He is a miserable victim of anxiety  
I am afraid he will be taught by many a sore and  
    scalding lesson  
It is decidedly humorous  
I am open to suggestion  
It would neither remove nor confirm my doubts  
I hate all ostentation  
Upon subsequent occasions he was very affable

## *Response*

---

Heaven knows how or when  
If they could be convinced it would be a godsend  
Much to our profit and delight  
It is the only possible course  
Not that I know  
I do not wish for any  
It is a matter of no importance  
He is sick but not in danger  
He is in feeble health  
We suffered great hardships  
Had I known it, I  
I do not remember  
I will summon him  
I should have liked very much to have seen him  
I have seen him  
I admit you've provocation for it  
I cannot recollect  
I have finished  
I assure you he was very much astonished  
Thank you for your cheering words  
You give me more credit than I deserve  
Forgive me all my delinquencies  
I cannot find words to express the intense  
    pleasure I have always in  
I appreciate keenly the favor you have shown  
    me  
It was delightful I assure you  
It is really a pleasure to assist you

## *Conversation*

---

You have great reason to congratulate yourself  
on

I supposed that it was he whom you meant

I supposed it to be me whom you meant

I do not know that I can. I wish I were able to

I should not have intruded on you at this hour

You would do me such a service I could scarce  
repay

With pleasure

I am quite delighted

I am ardently wishing for it

I imagine it must have been he

I am not sure I rightly understand

I am happy to think so

Yes, I quite understand how it happened

Fortunately so

We were fortunate enough to find one

I wish it were true

I was taken aback for the moment

Receive my sincere congratulations

I am delighted to hear you say so

I am most grateful to you

Most assuredly

It was very thoughtful of you

I feel indebted for your kindness

I will rejoin you directly

It would be the culmination of my fondest hopes  
to see

## *Response*

---

I should think it to be very much to one's  
    advantage to  
A pleasant coincidence happened recently of  
    which I must tell you  
Be that as it may, I  
If the truth must be told, I  
It is nothing less than marvelous that  
I exerted myself much to make him cheerful  
He was inflexible to all entreaty  
I am not at all solicitous about it  
It is not very conspicuous  
I acquiesce  
Certain unforeseen emergencies arose to hinder  
    me  
In spite of statements to the contrary I think  
    that  
In the long run, I  
One can be thankful enough for  
I hope your anticipations will be realized  
I had gratifying success  
In no manner of way  
Of the finest sort  
Its plausibility cannot be denied  
I intend to gratify my curiosity some day  
He has the unhappy knack of saying things  
    that are not so  
I can give no adequate explanation of it  
I feel amply repaid for my effort

## *Conversation*

---

We consider it a huge joke  
It was a matter of no consequence  
That is really interesting  
The news is decidedly reassuring  
It is most extraordinary  
It was altogether delightful  
It is exceptionally good  
The result exceeded my fondest expectations  
We were delighted beyond measure  
Bless your heart, yes  
I am entirely callous  
I feel that I have no more backbone than a  
    jellyfish  
That is far from being the whole truth  
This merits reflection  
Indeed, to a refreshing degree  
I will endeavor to be strictly impartial  
I am luckily disengaged to-day  
I confess that there is something very sensible  
    about that view  
What you tell me is simply astounding  
At present there is no indication of such a  
    millennium  
I have been inexorable to all invitations  
Certain unforeseen emergencies arose to hinder  
    me  
I suspect you know all about it  
I think his course is very unjustifiable

## *Response*

---

I do not doubt that he will be here  
He expects to get off to-morrow  
I regard him as being the cleverest man of my  
acquaintance  
He has given them no pecuniary assistance for  
some time  
His affairs are in a bad condition  
He fled the city  
It is nothing else than agreed  
We happened to be present on the occasion  
He is a man of small means  
I purpose leaving for home in the morning  
He would not believe but that I did it  
She is a widowed woman  
It was a long discussion  
I will go no farther  
I have nothing further to say  
I met a rather agreeable woman at dinner  
A lady, a friend of mine, told me  
I have asked two or three ladies and several men  
I expect two or three gentlemen  
It has been a delightfully agreeable day  
This is a fine morning  
I have neither eaten nor drunk anything to-day  
It looks as if it would rain  
This is the largest of all I have seen  
That kind of apples is best  
We are likely to have a fine day

## *Conversation*

---

You are quite right  
It is so gratifying to me  
How splendid it is in this connection that  
She will return presently

### TACTFUL RESPONSE

Now, as they say, you are asking me a question  
I am accustomed to that appellation  
It will afford us much food for reflection  
It is a fine thing to be open to conviction  
I wait events  
It is well worth looking into  
The matter is not past mending  
I will reflect upon it  
I am hopelessly old-fashioned in some things  
I am very tranquil about it  
It is too remote for reminiscence  
He spoke very sparingly of the occasion  
It is a fascinating field for difference of opinion  
Ask me something easy  
I am neutral  
The deponent sayeth not  
The problem is surely most perplexing  
I think, perhaps, there might be a happy medium  
It is surely a point of view novel enough to  
    merit attention

## *Tactful Response*

---

There seems no very great diversity in our sentiments

I often wish things were otherwise

I am not inclined to tinker with it

It seems that it is a case difficult either of proof or disproof

The question is surely a thorny and complex one

I am open to suggestion

What part of Ireland are you from?

Isn't that a sad state of affairs

I wish to act in consonance with the beliefs  
that I have so long adhered to

Give me your opinion of





## II

# General Phrases for Speech and Writing



# *Commendatory of Things*

---

## CONVERSATION

A desire to excel in speech and expression  
Unable to express himself with any degree of  
force or fluency in conversation  
A good converser  
A condensed verbal statement  
The art of conversation  
The immortal Socrates taught by conversation  
alone  
The luxury of talk  
An eloquent, fascinating talker  
A man whose genius shone in conversation  
He charmed everybody he met by his talk  
He fused the thoughts of others into his own  
A suggestive talker  
The charm of conversation  
Brilliant conversation  
A felicitous talker

## COMMENDATORY OF THINGS

A very promising beginning  
A delight to all right-minded people  
A work of unique value

## *Speech and Writing*

---

The finest thought the human mind can cherish  
A master-stroke of policy  
A task of immense interest  
Big with promise  
A most excellent speculation  
It is the ideal method of solving the problem  
An asset of incomparable value  
With new and increased capacities  
A very pretty problem in  
An experiment of absorbing interest  
In the most fetching style  
It has much to commend it to the sober judgment of thinking men

### CRITICAL OF THINGS

Pure cussedness  
Superficially clever  
Notions that will not bear the world's scrutiny  
I feel quite inspired to doubt the accuracy of  
Decidedly dreary  
In a very maudlin state  
Entirely without qualifications  
Highly improper  
Unhappily rare nowadays  
A clumsy attempt  
A lame effort

## *Critical of Things*

---

A distinction without a difference  
Not beyond just criticism  
A miserable poverty-stricken mental attitude  
Absurdly out of place  
Little to charm the eye  
Ingenious but hardly convincing  
An invincible ignorance  
With few tokens of affluence  
A stoic callousness  
A very tame and spiritless thing  
With no serious responsibility  
Slipshod methods  
A little pusillanimous motive  
They neutralize a large part of their effort by  
A foolish shortsighted policy  
A slight indiscretion  
A rather monotonous life  
A man lays himself open to criticism by  
An unfortunate notion  
Mentally deficient  
A stingy curmudgeon  
It is a situation to be lamented  
Not altogether a wise thing to do  
The first source of confusion is  
There is a shade of uncertainty in  
There is a distressing dearth of  
I have a strong foreboding that  
It is a silly piece of business

## *Speech and Writing*

---

An event which I shall always remember with  
unpleasant recollections

There exists a morbid condition of dissatisfaction  
It presents an ugly aspect

There is no general unanimity of opinion

It is an abnormal condition

A fly in the ointment

There is an obvious lack of sympathetic understanding

Statements which are positively alarming

Nothing could be more reprehensible

Such is the ingratitude of man

One of those pitiless rebukes

The disastrous effect is too plain to admit of any  
argument

The very name appears a fatuity

A narrow scrutiny that robs the act of its natural  
charm

Not the most reassuring thing in the world

Nothing is more annoying than

An error worse than heresy

It is not possible to describe in decent language  
the

Spiteful rivals whisper that

A condition that must be met without delay

The rude jostle of our selfish existence

With the most perfect indifference

It is an evidence of vulgarity of sentiment

## *Critical of Things*

---

A creature of impulse  
The revival of an old humbug  
A slight mist of uncertainty  
Which really means nothing when you look  
squarely at it  
Agitated by useless disputes  
A suggestion to be taken with reserve  
An idle meaningless pastime  
It is devoutly to be hoped that  
It is the quintessence of hypocrisy  
It is but the legitimate offspring of his policy  
They are a forlorn lot  
It is a vital mistake  
In this unseemly manner  
It comes with senile decay  
Without a moment's remorse  
A custom which has properly been abolished  
Nothing could be worse, speaking within the  
limitations of human imagination, than  
The false and the actual  
You never saw such an air of ruin and bank-  
ruptcy as everything wore  
A theory which has sins enough of its own to  
answer for  
They receive more attention than their small  
wit will justify  
A shameful and infamous practice, meriting the  
contempt and scorn of all real gentlemen



## *Speech and Writing*

---

### DESCRIPTIVE OF PERSONS

A matchless eye ·  
A winning smile  
With feminine ease and grace  
A very pretty manner  
A finely molded chin  
A great lubberly boy  
A black, chubby, kinky-haired pickaninny  
A chubby-handed, ruby-lipped baby  
A maid of winning charm  
A most winsome expression  
A dainty little miss  
A mere slip of a girl  
Nimbly moving hands  
In robust health  
In her smartest evening suit  
A husky youngster  
A tar of the jolly old sort  
A son frightfully dissipated  
An officer immensely officious  
The habit of gentle speech  
The habit of accurate observation  
The pink of perfection  
A vast amount of good sense  
A superior man  
An obliging person  
A magnanimous soul

## *Descriptive of Persons*

---

A good-natured fellow  
A most agreeable creature  
A natural sweetness of disposition  
A charmingly simple person  
A quiet unassuming person  
A man of sound sense  
A man of immovable convictions  
A lawyer of marked ability  
A discriminating eye  
A countenance which beautifully expressed a  
    deep interest in all things good  
A well-governed mind  
With the intuitive perceptions of a lover  
Many charming qualities  
A heart alive to all the beauties of nature  
With the most fastidious punctuality  
Fond of dwelling on the scenes of other days  
So frankly and innocently happy  
Skilled in the graces of conversation  
An unsympathetic reader  
A man of dignity, force, and ease of man-  
    ner  
A decent pride  
A clear brain  
A flash of intelligence  
A quick sympathy  
A wise tolerance  
An acute observer

## *Speech and Writing*

---

A splendid fellow  
A very mercenary person  
A trustworthy friend  
A fond mother  
A good listener  
An excellent musician  
An exceptional man  
A character worth knowing  
A mind of penetrating keenness  
A scholar of considerable eminence

### DESCRIPTIVE OF THINGS

A lovely landscape  
A quiet nook  
A crimson rosebud  
A fertile region  
A drowsy drone  
A snug farm  
A dainty flower  
The blissful skies  
Serene weather  
The most perfect night possible  
In very picturesque surroundings  
A charming aspect  
A rugged background  
A high-crested crag

## *Determination*

---

A pool of transparent clearness  
The kindly fruits of the earth  
The most appetizing confection  
The pleasing odor of good food  
A delicious condiment  
A deadly contagion  
A munificent gift  
Snowy table-linen  
The boundless beauty of springtime  
The blissful skies  
A rattling good story  
A savory odor  
A quaint old house  
Of a make quite metropolitan  
A suit of faultless cut  
Delicate traceries  
A facile pen  
A nice omelet

## DETERMINATION

Downright mulishness  
With an air of stolid desperation  
With unflinching determination  
Not to be tempted into foolhardiness  
He held on with grim determination  
With determined perseverance  
Gently but firmly

## *Speech and Writing*

---

A vigorous determination  
With stoical fortitude  
With all the energy of one's soul  
With redoubled energy  
Consumed by the intensity of a passion for  
A quiet determination to do their part nobly  
A grim endurance  
Struggling with circumstances  
With indomitable patience  
He has a phenomenal capacity for pegging  
    away  
Not swerved from his position by a hair's  
    breadth  
In proportion to the strength and persistency of  
    an intelligent effort  
Pretty persistently  
He is disputing the crown of his profession with  
    his neighbor  
I warm to a man who has gall in his liver  
He gave us a clear and vigorous presentation of  
    his own position  
With indomitable spirit  
With unremitting assiduity  
Unsubdued in spirit and undepressed in mind  
A grim hold upon  
An obtuse human  
A persistent tendency to

## *Energy*

---

### ENERGY

An enthusiastic ardor  
A dash of recklessness  
With fervent aspiration after  
My spirit fired at such indignities  
An eager disputant  
In fine fettle  
An alert and inquisitive mind  
Fired with enthusiasm for  
With surprising dexterity  
A new impetus  
Notable and far-reaching activities  
The real spice of what would be otherwise  
    prosaic and dull  
Into the stir and hubbub of the world  
A stirring place  
With bewildering rapidity  
With tremendous earnestness  
Called into action by a new emergency  
Strained almost to the limit  
Their efforts were happily crowned with success  
He gave himself without stint  
A mighty dynamic  
Ginger and go  
Vigorous and hot for the fray  
Firmness and strength underlying  
The habit of stoutly claiming our rights

## *Speech and Writing*

---

Cling with all the tenacity you can muster  
A great deal of perseverance is needed  
Able to bear the brunt  
A matter of great necessity  
The limitations of human endurance  
At pains to give a wide circulation to  
A decided tendency toward  
He labored with the utmost intelligence and  
energy  
We need to accentuate some phases of  
He placed his business on an excellent footing  
No other so piquant instance  
A brimming tide of energy  
A stout-hearted people  
A fountain of boundless energy  
The overflow of energy  
With considerable energy  
With the air of finality  
In pretty constant activity  
Prodigiously active  
An emotion which impels to action  
A strenuous life  
Never relaxing  
Intent on getting a comfortable livelihood

### EGOTISTIC

Overbearing arrogance  
The pride of singularity

## *Figurative*

---

He has a very high opinion of himself  
Naturally self-contained  
His vanity was delicately tickled  
He is captivated by a sense of his own importance  
She came in with insufferable condescension  
With a sort of bravado  
In a very supercilious manner  
With a surly grunt of recognition  
A few curt remarks  
All the grist must be ground through his mill  
He proceeded with the greatest gusto to  
With sulky acquiescence  
Reticent and self-contained  
An affected civility

## FIGURATIVE

Like a young rose in summer time  
As sullen as an ill-tempered boy  
As acid as vinegar  
Like a thousand silent years  
As impressible as wax  
Like a watch with an inelastic spring  
His heart as heavy as lead within him  
As brown and supple as a hazel twig  
As pitiless as pestilence  
As fierce as flame  
Wrinkled as an old parchment



## *Speech and Writing*

---

Trembling like an aspen leaf  
Like the precision and grace of a sea wave  
Like fine-spun cobwebs, with greedy puffed-up,  
    spider-like lusts in the middle  
As idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean  
As full of good-fellowship as a sugar-maple is of  
    sap  
Like a live red-hearted volcano  
Like a ruby gem on a wristlet of steel  
It is like trying to use a large screw driver to  
    turn a small screw  
As for man his days are as grass  
My heart palpitated like a trip hammer  
Like the restless tides of the ocean  
As helpless as animals driven to slaughter  
The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree  
With Niagara-like impetus  
Like the homeward instinct of the bee  
It vanished like snow falling in the river  
The form changed like a chameleon  
Like the last echo born of a great cry  
Like flies upon a festering sore  
As black as ebony  
As white as snow  
As thin as a shadow  
As flat as a flounder  
As sharp as a needle  
As smooth as glass

## *Figurative*

---

As slippery as an eel

As rough as a bear

As still as a statue

As fierce as a tiger

As changeable as the moon

As burning as the thirst of the fever-stricken

As old as the moon

As impressible as wax to the seal

As graceful as Apollo

As obsolete as croquet

Like a salt sea-mist

Like slender palms along the oasis

Like little foxes among the tender vines

Like a dozing aged man

Drifting like an idle straw at the mercy of the  
wind

As gloomy as an old man by a fireless hearth

Like the slowly fading light of the sun at evening

As heavy and clumsy as a bear

As tired as a weary traveler on the burning  
sands

Like the sighing of autumn winds

As tall and stately as a poplar tree

As delicious as a breath of heaven

Like the sunny eyes of a baby

As beautiful as apple blossoms in an orchard

Rang through my heart as joy-bells fill the air

As bald as a cannon-ball

## *Speech and Writing*

---

Looked as fresh as a rose  
As happy as an angel  
As weak as water  
A face like a wooden face  
Like a sea of glory  
As naturally as perfume distills from a rose  
As sweet as angel-dreams  
Like the beating of a mother's heart when  
    her child is saved  
Clinging like a blight to the souls of men  
Swift as a shadow  
Short as a dream  
As thrilled as a débutante at her first ball  
As envenomed as an asp  
Like a beautiful rose of rare fragrance  
Like a drowsily clinging bee on a clover-  
    head  
As distant as the farthest star  
As cheerless as the Arctic Circle  
As sweet as a song on a summer's eve  
As easily as one could mend a spider's web  
As instinctively as some can read love in the  
    heart of a rose  
Like a huge python winding round and round its  
    victim  
Jet-black as ravens' wings  
As tedious as a twice-told tale  
As tedious as a tired horse

## *Figurative*

---

As clear as a whistle  
Like a sunbeam on a winter's day  
It froze all the fountains of love  
The fragile thread of life  
Smothered under the wet blanket of  
The deeps of degradation  
A hazy sea of memories  
A cat-like circumspection  
Reaping a dragon-tooth harvest  
The echo of a disappointed soul  
His mind cankers  
They froze me to silence  
Such a snore as the nose of innocence can produce  
A touch of languor in the air  
A work too hard for the teeth of time  
The gulf of oblivion  
Robbed of our tranquillity  
Sick with vanity  
In the twinkling of an eye  
The tents of wickedness  
The lion's share  
Leaven that is gradually purifying the world  
A rose-buddy sort of  
Weaves into the fabric of memory silver threads  
To bind with chains of gold  
Skating on thin ice  
Galvanizing substitutes

## *Speech and Writing*

---

The perilous undertow of  
It will come out in the wash  
Blasted with eternal barrenness  
The weary treadmill of the established system  
More polite than a duchess  
Limping with weariness  
A world swarming with engagements  
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle  
Clearer than the noonday  
Broader than the sea  
As the stars of heaven for multitude  
Like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and  
    tossed  
A land flowing with milk and honey  
Like a spring whose waters cannot fail  
Empty of the kernel of good sense  
Like a doddering old woman  
The dew of thy youth  
Sown broadcast over the whole region  
The seamy side of life  
A flight of fancy  
A lull in business  
The thread of existence  
Salt that keeps civilization from decay  
The last dregs of reality  
It becomes impossible to nurse their wrath  
Like a river that wanders and widens and waters  
    many fields

## *Figurative*

---

Like a whirlpool which seeks its own center  
Robbed of its heritage  
A bottomless sea of speculation  
He doesn't care a broken egg-shell for her  
Like an inconsiderate boy  
Diamonds as large as pigeon eggs  
Earrings like chandeliers  
It clings like a burr  
A tower of strength  
The salt of the earth  
The light of the world  
The wings of the morning  
Like a jewel in a swine's snout  
Honey-combed with heresy  
The lance that unhorses every one is  
Well rooted in the garden of memory  
I am the lonely slave of an oft-wandering  
    mind  
I hear the roll of the ages  
Age will chink the face  
He has climbed to the snows of age  
An age of gold  
Like a quiet mind in a loud world  
A bevy of apple-cheeked girls  
The bitter springs of anger and fear  
The spawning place of crime, ignorance, and  
    debauchery  
Still in its mewling and babbling infancy

## *Speech and Writing*

---

Feeds on the swine-husks of  
Through all these laggard stepping years  
Urged to blow a stimulating blast upon  
In a stage whisper  
As fascinating as a romance  
A mind of the steel-trap order  
He has shown good marksmanship in shooting  
    folly as it flies  
He took the bit in his teeth and ran away with  
    the  
The community is like your grandmother's  
    button bag  
Driven like a leaf before the wind  
Like clipped currency, not worth its full  
    value  
Like a dead flower with beauty and fragrance  
    fled  
Under the lash of  
As well founded as the law of gravitation  
The sun of his life sets in a blaze of glory  
Milder than any mother to a sick child  
Shrouded in mystery  
A sleep like the first sleep after torture  
Black as if cast from the shadow of a fallen  
    angel's wing  
As much as plants need sunshine  
As wax to receive impressions  
As steel to retain impressions

## *Foreign—Latin*

---

### FOREIGN—LATIN

*Ad captandum vulgus*, to catch the rabble  
*Argumentum ad hominem*, an appeal to passion  
rather than to reason  
*Ad infinitum*, endlessly  
*Ad interim*, in the meanwhile  
*Ad libitum*, at pleasure  
*Ad nauseam*, to disgust  
*Ad rem*, to the point  
*Ad valorem*, according to the value  
*A fortiori*, all the more surely  
*Alma mater*, fostering mother  
*Alter idem*, another precisely similar  
*Anno Domini*, in the year of our Lord  
*A posteriori*, from facts back to principles  
*A priori*, from principles to facts  
*Bona fide*, in good faith  
*Cui bono?* for whose good  
*De facto*, on the basis of facts  
*De novo*, anew  
*Deo gratias*, thanks to God  
*Deo volente*, with God's consent  
*De profundis*, out of the depths  
*Dramatis personae*, the actors in a play  
*Ecce homo*, behold the man  
*E pluribus unum*, one composed of many  
*Ergo*, therefore



## Speech and Writing

---

*Esto perpetua*, let it endure forever  
*Et cetera*, and so on  
*Ex cathedra*, with high authority  
*Ex officio*, by virtue of his office  
*Ex parte*, partisan  
*Ex post facto*, after the deed is done  
*Ex tempore*, on the impulse of the moment  
*Gloria in excelsis*, Glory in the highest  
*Ibidem*, in the same place  
*Ibid*, in the same place  
*Id est*, that is  
*Idem*, the same  
*Item*, also  
*In articulo mortis*, at the point of death  
*In hoc signo vinces*, under this standard thou  
    shalt conquer  
*In medias res*, in the midst of things  
*In memoriam*, in memory  
*In perpetuum*, forever  
*In re*, in the matter of  
*In statu quo*, in the former state  
*In toto*, completely  
*In transitu*, in passing  
*Ipsissima verba*, the very words  
*Ipso facto*, by virtue of that very fact  
*Jubilate Deo*, rejoice in the Lord  
*Jus gentium*, the law of nations  
*Lapsus linguae*, a slip of the tongue

## Foreign—Latin

---

*Lis pendens*, the pending suit  
*Magnum opus*, a great work  
*Mala fide*, treacherously  
*Meum et tuum*, mine and thine  
*Mirabile dictu*, strange to say  
*Modus operandi*, manner of operation  
*Multum in parvo*, much in little  
*Ne plus ultra*, perfection itself  
*Nil desperandum*, no need to despair  
*Nolens volens*, whether he will or not  
*Labor omnia vincit*, labor overcomes every  
difficulty  
*Non sequitur*, it does not follow  
*Nota bene*, mark well  
*Omnes*, all  
*Paterfamilias*, the head of a household  
*Pater noster*, Our Father  
*Particeps criminis*, a sharer in the crime  
*Peccavi*, I have erred  
*Per annum*, by the year  
*Per capita*, by the head  
*Per centum*, by the hundred  
*Per contra*, contrariwise  
*Per diem*, by the day  
*Per se*, in itself  
*Pro bono publico*, for the public good  
*Pro et con*, for and against  
*Pro tempore*, for the time being

## Speech and Writing

---

*Quantum libet*, as much as you please  
*Quid pro quo*, a substitute  
*Quod vide*, which see  
*Requiescat in pace*, peace to his ashes  
*Scriptum*, he wrote it  
*Semper felix*, always fortunate  
*Semper fidelis*, always faithful  
*Semper idem*, always the same  
*Seriatim*, in sequence  
*Sine cura*, without care  
*Sine die*, without a day appointed  
*Sine qua non*, an indispensable prerequisite  
*Status quo*, the current situation  
*Sub rosa*, secretly  
*Sui generis*, unique  
*Summum bonum*, the highest form of virtue  
*Tempus fugit*, time flies  
*Terra firma*, the solid earth  
*Terra incognita*, an unknown country  
*Tuum est*, it is your own  
*Una voce*, unanimously  
*Ut infra*, as stated below  
*Ut supra*, as stated above  
*Verbatim*, word for word  
*Versus*, against  
*Via*, by the way of  
*Vice versa*, the terms being exchanged  
*Vi et armis*, by main force

## Foreign—French

---

*Viva voce*, orally

*Vox populi est vox Dei*, the voice of the people  
is the voice of God

## FOREIGN—FRENCH

*À la mode*, according to the style

*À outrance*, without mercy

*Au fait*, up to the mark

*Au reste*, besides

*Au revoir*, adieu until we meet again

*Beau monde*, the fashionable world

*Bête noire*, a pet aversion

*Bonhomie*, good nature

*Bon jour*, good morning

*Bonne bouche*, a delicate morsel

*Bon soir*, good evening

*Chapeaux bas*, hats off

*Chef de cuisine*, head cook

*Contretemps*, an awkward situation

*De trop*, out of place

*Edition de luxe*, a splendid edition

*En déshabillé*, in undress

*Enfin*, finally

*En masse*, in a body

*En rapport*, in harmony

*En route*, on the way

*Entre nous*, between ourselves

## Speech and Writing

---

*Esprit de corps*, the animating spirit of a collective body

*Faux pas*, a mistake

*Hors de combat*, down and out

*Laissez faire*, let things take their natural course

*Lèse-majesté*, high treason

*Ma chère*, my dear

*Ma foi*, on my honor

*Mal à propos*, ill-timed

*Mal de mer*, seasickness

*Mon ami*, my friend

*Noblesse oblige*, rank imposes obligations

*On dit*, they say

*Par excellence*, preëminently

*Peu à peu*, by degrees

*Raison d'état*, a reason of state

*Robe de chambre*, a morning gown

*Sans souci*, free from care

*Tout ensemble*, the general effect

## IRRITATION

A fit of nervous exasperation

Evidences of a reckless temper

An unpleasant passage of words

Impatient of delay

Exasperated beyond expression

Much piqued

## *Manly*

---

Acting with the petulance of a child  
Irritably self-conscious  
Angry at the most minute provocation  
Driven into nervous prostration  
Thin-skinned in the presence of annoyances  
Enough to imperil the habit of studied moderation of statement  
The most exasperating of all nuisances  
I was in the worst possible temper with  
Irritability that has some justification  
I never before have known anything so provoking  
He used most vigorous terms in referring to  
She hides all her vexation in her bosom  
An error of the most exasperating sort  
He is easily irritated  
With the most astonishing perverseness  
A weight of nerves without a mind  
A few hot and bitter words  
In utter exasperation

## MANLY

Men who love their fellow-men and prove their  
love by service  
He did not once deviate from his principles  
He has a profound contempt for show and  
humbug

## *Speech and Writing*

---

Men broad-brained and broad-shouldered for  
the task

Men of breadth of outlook

Men who foresee great things

Large-hearted and clear-eyed men

Real leaders

Men who keep in the straight path of duty

Every man shall bear his own burden

Men whose fidelity merits the highest praise

Men who would dare hell-heat or Arctic cold

Men whose intentions were never open to honest  
doubt

A man whose happiness was in serving others

Strong men

Untinged by prejudice

Clouded by no unfriendliness

Without acrimony

With no preconceived theories

In whole-hearted simplicity

Above suspicion

With entire frankness

No feeling of estrangement

A gleam of friendly light

The right mental attitude

The right hand of fellowship

In the sunshine of a genial nature

In the genial glow of the firelight

Of gentle mien

## *Militaristic*

---

Most entertaining  
The contagion of noble lives

### MILITARISTIC

The zone of hostilities  
The harmless victims of war  
The strongest reason for a rupture among the  
    nations  
Tactical retreat  
Martial enthusiasm  
A crack regiment  
Universal disarmament  
Strict neutrality  
The inevitable horrors of war  
A military advantage  
The war-makers of Europe  
The ruthlessness of war  
The neutrality of nations  
Far from the ignoble strife of men  
The futility of war as a means of settling dis-  
    putes  
The international equivalent of the policeman's  
    club  
Cannon fodder  
The lust of empire  
The cruel indignities of war  
The long-nurtured passions of a nation



## *Speech and Writing*

---

When the thunders of war are heard around  
the world  
The arbitrament of arms  
A test of materialism  
An age crammed with war  
The federation of the world  
The policy of military preparedness  
The patriotism of the common people  
A military tattoo in the streets  
The dominant military power in the world  
The nightmare menace of war  
The crime of Cain multiplied a million fold  
The widespread sentiment for neutrality  
The maintenance of peace  
The menace of a world war  
A sin against civilization  
The stunning sense of some great calamity  
The futility of militarism  
The theater of hostilities  
Needless, useless, wicked, wanton war  
The allied armies  
The pitiful misery of the people  
A long-drawn-out conflict  
An overwhelming numerical superiority  
An appalling cost of human life  
The diplomatic corps  
A compact front  
Wanton destruction

## *Opposition*

---

Military necessity  
Deliberate and wanton vandalism  
With ruthless hand  
The guilty madness of war  
The inveterate belligerence of  
A crushing indictment of Twentieth Century  
civilization  
It only serves to inflame murderous thoughts of  
revenge  
The city tense with the excitement due to  
militarism  
Imbued with the spirit of war  
Prepared for vigorous operations  
Under cover of the artillery  
The oft-trodden battle-ground of the Low  
Countries  
A warless world  
War is bad, unconscionably, irredeemably bad  
An armed peace  
The mailed fist  
A religion of valor  
The terrorism of military might

## OPPOSITION

A good stout protest  
A railing accusation  
A storm of protest

## *Speech and Writing*

---

It is out of the question  
In perpetual protest  
Stubborn resistance  
A decided negative  
In the face of mighty passions and desires  
In the teeth of clenched antagonisms  
It is time to protest and to protest vigorously  
Not under any circumstances  
Too heavily handicapped  
A disposition in some to resent  
A combination of hindrances  
Without flinching  
An insuperable barrier

### OPTIMISTIC

I have nothing dismal to remember  
A happy earnest life  
Without grudge or grumbling  
A hopeful attitude  
An attitude of assurance  
An inborn belief in the superiority of  
Always hailed with joy  
Quickening and cheerful influences  
Assuredly we shall win  
Of splendid augury  
The habit of expectancy  
A hopeful prospect

## *Optimistic*

---

A promising beginning on intelligent lines  
It is bound to accomplish a world of good  
A brisk cheerful sense of things present and  
    things to come  
Some cheerful hope-laden ideas  
No gloomy forebodings  
We will have the fun of beginning again  
An abiding optimism  
With high expectations  
Not a lurking doubt or suspicion lingers  
The most hopeful sign of the times is  
I know nothing more pleasant than to  
This is indeed good fortune  
How pleasant it is to  
I have had a great piece of luck  
Let us turn to more pleasant reflections  
But, after all, in this as in everything else one  
    must be hopeful  
Unquestioned confidence  
Without the least misgiving  
It is an assured success  
Conscious of being able to cope with the situa-  
    tion  
Genuine confidence  
It is in no wise inimical to your interests  
To believe him guilty of deliberate mendacity  
    would be painful  
With undiminished confidence

## *Speech and Writing*

---

A place of peace and unfailing cheeriness  
A cheery greeting  
In high glee  
With many a cheering smile  
He manifests a cheerful willingness  
Deeply and unfeignedly happy  
It is a cheerful sign of progress when  
He is capable of taking the highest view which  
the circumstances of the case may admit  
He has the habit of holding an expectant attitude  
To attain that will be a supreme delight  
He is all the time pressing forward with keen  
expectancy  
There are many hopeful aspects of the situation  
The situation is greatly improved  
May we have a part in bringing in a new and  
better day

### PATRIOTIC

The new patriotism  
The golden age of the federation of the world  
A world-wide democracy  
A United States of the world  
A world patriotism  
A universal alliance  
A league of peace  
A glorious future for the nations of the world

## *Pessimistic*

---

Universal democracy  
A supreme court of arbitrament  
A peace federation  
The end of autocracies  
The end of secret diplomacy  
It is subversive of every principle of our democracy  
Pan-Americanism  
Pan-Germanism  
International patriotism  
A democracy as broad as humanity  
International federation  
The new prosperity  
One of our chief claims to glory is

## PESSIMISTIC

I found myself under my juniper tree  
It is the very mystery of perversity  
He is in a woeful state of mind  
A sense of desolation  
There came upon my heart an intolerable burden  
of despondency  
A dreary conclusion  
The unexpected and adverse strokes of fortune  
A damper on my hopes  
A gloomy consolation  
A discouraging moment

## *Speech and Writing*

---

Friendless, homeless, hopeless, undone  
Impossible of accomplishment  
Grave symptoms  
A forlorn hope  
A nameless foreboding  
One has to be optimistic to find anything hopeful  
    ful in the present outlook  
A somber and mournful aspect  
A sign of ill omen  
He has the habit of dating existence by the  
    memory of its burdens  
A sea of trouble  
Under the pressure of calamity  
A welter of sordid interests  
A very flood of wretchedness  
A sorry plight  
Moments when one grows sick of mankind  
Inexpressibly miserable  
A very gloomy report  
He is etching the black pictures deeper and  
    deeper into his consciousness  
By some strange fatality  
Hearts bursting with despair  
A terrible legacy  
With a groan of sickening remorse  
With a sense of desolation  
Many vicissitudes  
All true in a finished civilization

## *Political*

---

He has seen many a bitter day of sorely tried  
    hopes  
The many accessories of evil  
Crushed by burdens  
The misspent strivings of mankind  
Errant human nature  
To move in paralyzing dread  
Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward  
A particularity which converts every trifle into  
    a thorn  
A dark and stormy sea

## POLITICAL

An unworthy piece of legislation  
An odious piece of class legislation  
A grave indictment of independent citizenship  
Names of genuine weight on the roster of dele-  
    gates  
Signs of a genuine awakening in the nation  
Deliberate malfeasance in office  
A flagrant offense against public opinion  
Indulging simply in pure buncombe  
Log-rolling schemes  
A public disgrace  
A blaze of popular resentment  
Political fakery



## *Speech and Writing*

---

Blind partisanship  
An unfortunate deadlock  
Public apathy  
Under the old régime  
In the initial days of the campaign  
A shiftý self-seeking politician  
Astute diplomats  
A corrupt public sentiment  
From long association with politics  
The real state of affairs in the nation  
The last word of political wisdom  
The pressing questions of the hour  
Facts officially winked at  
Recreant to a solemn trust  
A sincere desire to safeguard the public  
Refreshing to the people  
Close to the heart of affairs  
Hesitating at no extravagance  
These recriminations go on endlessly  
An era of good feeling  
For political advantage  
Scrupulously avoiding any offense against his  
party  
One of the most prominent and potential among  
the leaders of his party  
One cannot blame him for being resentful when  
the organ of his party flouts and ridicules  
him

## *Prudential*

---

He is quick to anticipate the veerings of public  
taste  
It is regarded as a mere eczema on the body  
politic  
The engrossing questions of the day  
We must set ourselves to hunt out helpful  
policies

## PRUDENTIAL

By careful discrimination  
It must be handled with gloves  
Every statement carefully weighed and checked  
Without any undue haste  
For prudential reasons  
I have added a decent little amount to my small  
income  
Under strict and precise supervision  
It takes some trouble to ascertain the facts  
I do not mean to hamper myself by any fine-  
spun theory  
By a most conservative estimate  
With superior prudence and foresight  
He really should be more cautious  
The precaution necessary to insure safety  
With due caution  
I would advise caution  
Precautions have been taken

## *Speech and Writing*

---

### RIDICULE

I have tried to read him without skipping  
Wonderful to relate  
Growing beautifully less  
Painful occasions  
Not worth the powder to shoot him  
A trifle dull  
He devotes himself to leisure with much assiduity  
A bit of femininity  
He is never troubled with a serious thought  
The slightest modicum of common sense would  
teach that  
One half humbug and the other half hypocrisy  
Very material tastes and ambitions  
He is committing literary assault and battery on  
somebody whose works he has not read  
Pretty playthings  
The frivolous gabble of women  
Fanciful pipe-dreaming  
There is no activity within his cerebral cavity  
A toy avalanche  
He sniffed scornfully  
He watched the proceeding from the seat of the  
scornful  
One or two notches short of perfection  
Confess you have dreamed this  
After the wont of his kind

## *Satisfaction*

---

The one and only man who knows what to do  
and how to do it  
He is romancing  
Possible but still improbable  
Too sanguine  
Too eager  
Unfortunate venture  
Small talk

## SATISFACTION

It is so satisfying  
I had the secret satisfaction of  
I was wonderfully pleased with it  
With great satisfaction  
Complete satisfaction  
An unmixed satisfaction  
Quite content in almost anyone's company  
It is ample reward for the hardships endured

## SUSPICION

A lurking suspicion all the while  
A chronic distrust  
An uncertain sense of something hidden  
Timid misgivings  
In such a way as to raise a mild suspicion that  
Inclined to be suspicious

## *Speech and Writing*

---

### TERSE

Snoozed  
Villainous  
A ninny  
Hob-and-nobbing  
In hunks  
A snack  
Good form  
Chit-chat  
Crisscross and catercornered  
Glib-tongued  
Gilt-edged  
Sly digs  
Cold cash  
Snap judgment  
Far-fetched  
Topsy-turvy  
Human acorns  
Ear-kissing arguments  
Poking fun

### III

## Phrases for Clergymen and Religious Workers



## *Blessings*

---

### BIBLE PHRASES—BLESSINGS

Who giveth us richly all things to enjoy, I Tim.  
vi., 17.

He will ever be mindful of his covenant, Ps.  
cxi., 5.

He filleth thee with the finest of the wheat, Ps.  
cxlvi., 14.

He satisfieth the longing soul, Ps. cvii., 9.

He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his  
eye, Zech. ii., 8.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, Isa. xl., 11.

As the heaven is high above the earth so great is  
his mercy toward them that fear him, Ps.  
ciii., 11.

He filleth the hungry soul with goodness, Ps.  
cvii., 9.

He healeth the broken in heart, Ps. cxlvi., 3.

He is kind to the unthankful, Luke vi., 35.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift,  
II Cor. ix., 15.

As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land,  
Isa. xxxii., 2.

The desert shall rejoice and blossom as the  
rose, Isa. xxxv., 1.



## *Clergymen*

---

The God of truth, Isa. lxxv., 16.

The blessing of the Lord it maketh rich and he addeth no sorrow with it, Prov. x., 22.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, Ps. xxxvii., 23.

Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store, Deut. xxviii., 5.

In every thing give thanks, I Thess. v., 18.

I have a goodly heritage, Ps. xvi., 6.

A feast of fat things, Isa. xxv., 6.

The promise of eternal inheritance, Heb. ix., 15.

His soul shall dwell at ease, Ps. xxv., 13.

Thy sleep shall be sweet, Prov. iii., 24.

More precious than rubies, Prov. iii., 15.

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, Phil. iv., 7.

With joy unspeakable and full of glory, I Pet. i., 8.

Underneath are the everlasting arms, Deut. xxxiii., 27.

Let us put on the armour of light, Rom. xiii., 12.

More than heart could wish, Ps. lxxiii., 7.

## BIBLE PHRASES—HOPE

Prisoners of hope, Zech. ix., 12.

Heir of all things, Heb. i., 2.

We are saved by hope, Rom. viii., 24.

## *Redemption*

---

The eye of the Lord is upon them that hope in his mercy, Ps. xxxiii., 18.

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast, Heb. vi., 19.

We are perplexed, but not in despair, II Cor. iv., 8.

Thou shalt be secure because there is hope, Job xi., 18.

The children of promise, Gal. iv., 28.

He hath given everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, II Thess. ii., 16.

Hope to the end, I Pet. i., 13.

From strength to strength, Ps. lxxxiv., 7.

He staggered not at the promise of God, Rom. iv., 20.

### BIBLE PHRASES—REDEMPTION

Though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow, Isa. i., 18.

The forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace, Eph. i., 7.

As far as the east is from the west so far hath he removed our transgressions from us, Ps. ciii., 12.

A bruised reed shall he not break, Isa. xlii., 3.

Like as a father pitieth his children so the Lord pitieth them that fear him, Ps. ciii., 13.

I will refine them as silver is refined, Zech. xiii., 9.

## *Clergymen*

---

In whom we have redemption, Eph. i., 7.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, Jude 24.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, Titus iii., 5.

Moved with compassion, Matt. ix., 36.

Partakers of the divine nature, II Pet. i., 4.

Mighty to save, Isa. lxiii., 1.

Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, Isa. li., 1.

The wrath of man shall praise thee, Ps. lxxvi., 10.

Wise unto salvation, II Tim. iii., 15.

A man after mine own heart, Acts xiii., 22.

The redemption of our body, Rom. viii., 23.

Love covereth all sins, Prov. x., 12.

The truth shall make you free, John viii., 32.

Love suffereth long and is kind, I Cor. xiii., 4.

Unto the pure all things are pure, Titus i., 15.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, Eph. i., 18.

I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection, I Cor. ix., 27.

Justified from all things, Acts xiii., 39.

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all, Eph. iv., 6.

He hath made us accepted in the beloved, Eph. i., 6.

## *Warning*

---

### BIBLE PHRASES—WORK

- Zealous of good works, Titus ii., 14.  
Labor of love, I Thess. i., 3. -  
Rich in good works, I Tim. vi., 18.  
Fellowhelpers to the truth, III John 8.  
Doing the will of God from the heart, Eph. vi., 6.  
That with well-doing ye may put to silence the  
    ignorance of foolish men, I Pet. ii., 15.  
Laying up in store for themselves a good found-  
    ation against the time to come, I Tim. vi.,  
    19.  
The laborer is worthy of his hire, Luke x., 7.  
A pattern of good works, Titus ii., 7.  
We are laborers together with God, I Cor. iii., 9.  
I will very gladly spend and be spent for you, II  
    Cor. xii., 15.  
Let all things be done decently and in order,  
    I Cor. xiv., 40.  
The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, Eccl. v.,  
    12.  
Their nobles put not their necks to the work,  
    Neh. iii., 5.

### BIBLE PHRASES—WARNING

- The lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes,  
    and the pride of life, I John ii., 16.  
The tents of wickedness, Ps. lxxxiv., 10.

## *Clergymen*

---

Abomination to the Lord, Prov. xi., 20.

Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also  
reap, Gal. vi., 7.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unright-  
eous man his thoughts, Isa. lv., 7.

His enemies shall lick the dust, Ps. lxxii., 9.

The way of transgressors is hard, Prov. xiii., 15.

Fools make a mock at sin, Prov. xiv., 9.

By thy wrath are we troubled, Ps. xc., 7.

At their wit's end, Ps. cvii., 27.

A perpetual reproach, Ps. lxxviii., 66.

Blind guides which strain at a gnat, and swallow  
a camel, Matt. xxiii., 24.

He that hath ears to hear let him hear, Luke xiv.,  
35.

Yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished,  
Jer. xlvi., 28.

The wicked are like the troubled sea, Isa. lvii., 20.

The axe is laid unto the root of the tree, Luke  
iii., 9.

Lewd fellows of the baser sort, Acts xvii., 5.

They have sown the wind, and they shall reap  
the whirlwind, Hosea viii., 7.

Worse than an infidel, I Tim. v., 8.

A man of unclean lips, Isa. vi., 5.

As he thinketh in his heart so is he, Prov. xxiii., 7.

Terrible as an army with banners, Solomon's  
Song vi., 4.

## *Warning*

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Wise in their own eyes, Isa. v., 21.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper, Isa. liv., 17.

The way that leadeth to destruction, Matt. vii., 13.

Punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, II Thess. i., 9.

The last state is worse than the first, Luke xi., 26.

The wages of sin is death, Rom. vi., 23.

Outer darkness, Matt. viii., 12.

Be sure your sin will find you out, Num., xxxii., 23.

The unfruitful works of darkness, Eph. v., 11.

For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth, II Cor. xiii., 8.

Past feeling, Eph. iv., 19.

Admonish him as a brother, II Thess. iii., 15.

And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, Jude 23.

Eternal judgment, Heb. vi., 2.

That ye may consume it upon your lusts, Jas. iv., 3.

A great gulf fixed, Luke xvi., 26.

In the bond of iniquity, Acts viii., 23.

Whited sepulchres, Matt. xxiii., 27.

When I begin, I will also make an end, I Sam. iii., 12.

## *Clergymen*

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### BIBLE PHRASES—UNCLASSIFIED

- An everlasting foundation, Prov. x., 25.  
More precious than of gold that perisheth, I Pet.  
i., 7.  
The power of the grave, Hosea xiii., 14.  
The people of God, Heb. xi., 25.  
An ornament of grace, Prov. i., 9.  
The peaceable fruit of righteousness, Heb. xii., 11.  
The righteousness of the law, Rom. viii., 4.  
The law of sin and death, Rom. viii., 2.  
The light of life, John viii., 12.  
Good tidings of good, Isa. lii., 7.  
The tongue of the wise, Prov. xv., 2.  
The Prince of peace, Isa. ix., 6.  
The counsellors of peace, Prov. xii., 20.  
The firstfruits of all thine increase, Prov. iii., 9.  
A goodly heritage, Ps. xvi., 6.  
The good fight of faith, I Tim. vi., 12.  
The paths of the Lord, Ps. xxv., 10.  
The secret of the Lord, Ps. xxv., 14.  
The courts of our God, Ps. xcii., 13.  
A diadem of beauty, Isa. xxviii., 5.  
Before the foundation of the world, Eph. i., 4.  
Everlasting habitations, Luke xvi., 9.  
A faithful creator, I Pet. iv., 19.  
Lord thou hast been our dwelling place in all  
generations, Ps. xc., 1.

## *Unclassified*

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He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, Ps. lxxii., 8.

The eternal God is thy refuge, Deut. xxxiii., 27.

God is the strength of my heart, Ps. lxxiii., 26.

The joy of the Lord is your strength, Neh. viii., 10.

A crown of glory that fadeth not away, I Pet. v., 4.

Unsearchable riches, Eph. iii., 8

A crown of righteousness, II Tim. iv., 8.

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth, II Tim. iii., 7.

Let thy words be few, Eccl. v., 2.

There is no discharge in that war, Eccl. viii., 8.

A living dog is better than a dead lion, Eccl. ix., 4.

Wizards that peep, and that mutter, Isa. viii., 19.

He smelleth the battle afar off, Job xxxix., 25.

While I was musing the fire burned, Ps. xxxix., 3.

In the valley of decision, Joel iii., 14.

For who hath despised the day of small things, Zech. iv., 10.

To the law and to the testimony, Isa. viii., 20.

A covenant with death, Isa. xxviii., 15.

Absent in body, but present in spirit, I Cor. v., 3.

Fallen from grace, Gal. v., 4.



## *Clergymen*

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The refuge of lies, Isa. xxviii., 17.

Line upon line, Isa. xxviii., 13.

Carried about with every wind of doctrine, Eph.  
iv., 14.

Let every man be fully persuaded in his own  
mind, Rom. xiv., 5.

Great plainness of speech, II Cor. iii., 12.

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good, I  
Thess. v., 21.

A book of remembrance, Mal. iii., 16.

The law of kindness, Prov. xxxi., 26.

A mother in Israel, II Sam. xx., 19.

The land of the living, Ps. cxvi., 9.

I am escaped with the skin of my teeth, Job xix.,  
20.

A still small voice, I Kings xix., 12.

His eye was not dim, nor his natural force  
abated, Deut. xxxiv., 7.

Let me die the death of the righteous, Num.  
xxiii., 10.

A soft answer turneth away wrath, Prov. xv., 1.

Not of the night, nor of darkness, I Thess.  
v., 5.

An understanding heart, I Kings iii., 9.

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings, Ps.  
xvii., 8.

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in  
baskets of silver, Prov. xxv., 11.

## *Unclassified*

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Establish thou the works of our hands, Ps. xc.,  
17.

Whose I am, and whom I serve, Acts xxvii., 23.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all accep-  
tation, I Tim. i., 15.

Her children arise up, and call her blessed, Prov.  
xxxi., 28.

Their folly shall be manifest to all men, II Tim.  
iii., 9.

Lest I should be exalted above measure, II Cor.  
xii., 7.

They have sold a girl for wine, Joel iii., 3.

In your patience possess ye your souls, Luke xxi.,  
19.

Eyes full of adultery, II Pet. ii., 14.

Every idle word that men shall speak, Matt.  
xii., 36.

My speech shall distill as the dew, Deut. xxxii., 2.

A strong consolation, Heb. vi., 18.

Great treasure and trouble therewith, Prov. xv.,  
16.

A lover of hospitality, Titus i., 8.

A wholesome tongue, Prov. xv., 4.

Not greedy of filthy lucre, I Tim. iii., 3.

A cheerful giver, II Cor. ix., 7.

The children of light, I Thess. v., 5.

Speaking the truth in love, Eph. iv., 15.

The sword of the spirit, Eph. vi., 17.

## *Clergymen*

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The tree of life, Prov. iii., 18.  
The wings of the wind, Ps. xviii., 10.  
A crown of life, Rev. ii., 10.  
Not weary in well doing, Gal. vi., 9.  
Invisible things, Rom. i., 20.  
Slow to wrath, Jas. i., 19.  
An everlasting sign, Isa. lv., 13.  
The hidden things of dishonesty, II Cor. iv., 2.  
A thorn in the flesh, II Cor. xii., 7.  
A cloud of witnesses, Heb. xii., 1.  
The day is far spent, Luke xxiv., 29.  
As one having authority, Matt. vii., 29.  
Borne the burden and heat of the day, Matt.  
xx., 12.  
A word spoken in due season, Prov. xv., 23.  
Words of truth and soberness, Acts xxvi., 25.  
Mighty in word and deed, Luke xxiv., 19.  
Not grudgingly or of necessity, II Cor. ix., 7.  
Faithful unto death, Rev. ii., 10.  
Incorruptible and undefiled, I Pet. i., 4.  
The mind of Christ, I Cor. ii., 16.  
I obtained mercy, I Tim. i., 13.  
The words of truth and soberness, Acts xxvi., 25.  
This is the finger of God, Ex. viii., 19.  
By the law is the knowledge of sin, Rom. iii., 20.  
Things that accompany salvation, Heb. vi., 9.  
If a man die shall he live again? Job xiv., 14.  
Watchman, what of the night? Isa. xxi., 11.

## *Devotional*

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In the furnace of affliction, Isa. xlviii., 10.

Owe no man anything, but to love one another,  
Rom. xiii., 8.

A wounded spirit who can bear, Prov. xviii., 14.

Riches certainly make themselves wings, Prov.  
xxiii., 5.

A man to have friends must shew himself  
friendly, Prov. xviii., 24.

Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, Prov.  
xviii., 22.

It is more blessed to give than to receive, Acts  
xx., 35.

Perfect love casteth out fear, I John iv., 18.

A good name is rather to be chosen than great  
riches, Prov. xxii., 1.

The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak,  
Mk. xiv., 38.

Comfort one another with these words, I Thess.  
iv., 18.

Of whom the world was not worthy, Heb. xi., 38.

### DEVOTIONAL

Enable us to meet with gentleness and for-  
bearance any opposition to our wishes

And when we shall have fulfilled thy purposes  
concerning us on earth may we be received  
into the everlasting mansions revealed to us  
through Jesus Christ our Lord

## *Clergymen*

---

Fortify us by Thy spirit against the temptations  
that await us  
May the sweet influences of the Gospel gladden  
and redeem many hearts  
Rule thou in our hearts  
Fill us with holy thoughts and noble desires  
May we be warned of sin and its dreadful consequences  
We thank Thee for the rich promises and precious  
hopes of the Gospel of Thy Son  
We would breathe into Thine ear our gratitude  
for mercies so free  
May our hearts glow with a renewed sense of  
Thy love  
Fulfill in us Thy gracious promises  
Help us to cherish the heavenly disposition  
of Jesus Christ our Lord  
Scatter the darkness from our minds by the  
beams of thy heavenly truth  
Teach us how to attain that holiness which will  
make us holy like Thee  
Clothe us with all social and domestic graces  
Help us to discharge our debt to the world  
Daily we would supplicate Thy mercy and protection  
Make our duties plain before us  
May we be inflexible in every good purpose  
Unseal our spiritual vision

## *Devotional*

---

We pray for those who are languishing on beds of  
sickness and have wearisome days and nights  
assigned them

We are sorry that we are so fondly attached to  
the things that perish

Encompass our minds this day with thoughts of  
heaven

Wilt Thou take us unto Thy keeping this day  
Pity our frailties

Inspire us with an abiding gratitude

In the defenseless hours of sleep Thou hast  
preserved us

With the light of another morning we would lift  
our hearts to Thee in grateful acknowledg-  
ment of thy goodness

Suffer not our ears to become dull to the cry  
of misery

May no day pass without thy blessing

May our hearts be open to the glad tidings

Keep us from distrustful thoughts

Give us a cheerful and unfailing confidence  
that Thou art at the heart of affairs

May our trials be borne with Christian meekness

May our difficulties work out for us some spirit-  
ual good

Encourage us in every right endeavor

May the thought that Thou seest us check every  
wrong motive and evil impulse

## *Clergymen*

---

Give us calmness and self-control under every  
disappointment and provocation  
Fulfil in us thy gracious promises  
Fill our hearts with thy rich grace  
Soften our sorrows  
Grant us thy reviving grace  
Fill us with thy perfect love  
Cheer saddened hearts  
In our spirits sweetly move  
Sanctify our deep distress

## HALLOWED

God of All Love  
Lord God Almighty  
Our Heavenly Father  
Our Gracious God  
Our Father  
Almighty and Most Merciful God  
O Thou Guardian of our lives  
Father in heaven  
Divine Father  
Most Holy and Most Merciful God  
All-Merciful Father  
Eternal and Ever-Blessed God  
Almighty God our Father  
Eternal and All-Wise God  
Father of All Mercies

## *Arraignment*

---

God of All Love  
O God, Almighty and All-Holy  
O Righteous Father  
Father of Infinite Love  
O God, Father of Lights  
Most Glorious and Eternal God  
Father of Mercy and God of all comfort  
O Lord God of Infinite Excellency  
O Thou Great Shepherd  
Our Gracious Lord  
O Glorious God and Savior  
Most High and Mighty God  
Our Father and our God  
O Thou All-Bountiful Giver  
O Matchless Son of Man  
O Savior of Mankind  
O Holy and Ever Blessed Spirit  
O Spirit Divine

### SERMON PHRASES—ARRAIGNMENT

The hollow shams and conventionalities of our  
day  
No adequate sense of His holiness  
Baser than a beast  
No keen and poignant perception of sin  
The lessening sense of sin  
His own heart as cold as frost



## *Clergymen*

---

Sad and sinful days  
Our hearts hot with wrath and indignation  
    against sin  
Evil to its core  
The devil's signet  
Of decidedly earthly passions  
All dried up in one's soul  
Lust was kindled in his heart  
Base, mean, prudential, paying no tribute to the  
    Divine excellence  
The parching blight of sin  
Beware of artful, designing persons  
Sins come in groups, in battalions  
Like the frosts of sin which blight the sweet  
    blossoms of youth  
And taste the tang of the bitter cup  
The hundred and one enemies of our peace, com-  
    fort, and efficiency  
The burning poison in his veins  
There is nothing more likely to betray a man  
    into absurdity than  
It vexes, grieves, thwarts, repels, drives off the  
    Spirit of God  
Beware of the beginnings of sin  
Over head and ears in debt and drink  
The peril of riches  
A coronet of shame  
The secret beginnings of sin

## *Arraignment*

---

By so doing, he is sowing the seed of a fatal  
infection

Trifling with great spiritual realities  
Lest it might lead to things undesirable

The horror of a bottomless pit  
Habits which quietly sap the foundations of  
life

Words which will shock some dainty soul  
A sickening devotion to the pursuit of wealth  
The evils of unrighteousness in civic life  
It seems to contradict the designs of Providence  
A narrowing effect on the conscience of those  
who have embraced it

Care lest one be inveigled into perdition  
Words which ought to make us twinge  
Words of worldly wisdom  
A brewing storm of hostility  
The world's hardest battlefields of sin and sorrow  
In their hearts the feuds of ages  
A wretched, dejected, sin-blasted soul  
Carnality in the heart  
The great enemy of mankind  
The black enormity of sin  
A miserable grudge in your heart  
The spawn of the evil one  
A heritage of hate  
A dauntless worldling  
From whose very touch one's delicacies shrink

## *Clergymen*

---

The fires of a sensitive religious experience no  
longer glow

The grip of evil forces

All alarming, all hateful, all detestable

A gnawing sense of condemnation in the heart

Those who abuse God's great gift of speech

Some of these enormities put to blush heathen-  
ism itself

These are the new Dark Ages

No deeply seated opinions of right and wrong

A state of lazy indifference

Apparently destitute of ambition

Worthy neither of respect nor honor

Soft and easy days

Mean, petty, social prejudices

The temptation to fritter away life in interests  
that are small and mean

Everlasting confusion

The enemy shall come in like a flood

The man that speaketh froward things

The resurrection of damnation

A rebellious house

God resisteth the proud

The works of darkness

Unstable as water

Spreading himself like a green bay-tree

The words of his mouth were smoother than  
butter but war was in his heart

## *Consecration*

---

Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit?

There is more hope of a fool than of him

An unprofitable servant

His mouth is full of deceit and fraud

The wicked boasteth of his heart's desire

A sad vocation

A heart of adamant

A hardened cynic

The vain things

The enormity of sin

A scoffing world

A defeated one

Tenements of dust

The jealous eye

The everlasting burning

The hell of hate

A despicable heart

A sullen silence

A disdainful glance

A brittle promise

A sorry specimen

### SERMON PHRASES—CONSECRATION

All there is of us for God

Willing to take a lowly place anywhere to serve  
God

There is a constancy of spirit that beats like  
the pulse of God

## *Clergymen*

---

A heart full of longing to live in a larger way  
The hardships and joys of a life of toil  
My heart is set to do all the will of God  
A fervent and vigilant life in the service of God  
Men and women who are living beautiful lives  
    of sanctified service  
A work in which every man may bear a share  
The depth and fervor of our belief  
To lay our tribute at the feet of one who is  
    nobler than the noblest  
Perfect abandon unto the will of God  
Not much engaged in cumbering affairs  
Into spheres of sublime service  
In harmony with His character  
The free-will offering of our lips and purses  
Men who tried to stem the flood-tide of sin]  
In fearless pioneering  
In plucky unyielding struggle with evil  
In unapplauded toil among the poor

### SERMON PHRASES—HOPE

When the human heart sings with rejoicing hope  
When smiles begin to chase the tears  
A real breath of heaven  
With radiant face  
A draught of heavenly pleasure  
A triumphant hour

## *Insight*

---

A lively sense of exultation  
The dove of peace sings in our hearts  
I begin to discover somewhat of His beauty  
Transported with joy  
A current of pure and hallowed joys flowing  
    through the channels of the heart  
An intense inner happiness  
A most happy glimpse into the things of God  
Secret essences which turn life into a garden  
    of unspeakable delights

### SERMON PHRASES—INSIGHT

He put his finger on the nerve  
A very delicate discernment  
Point it out very tenderly  
A shrewd, acute man of the world  
God will set you aside if you do that  
With the discerning eye of faith  
A complete revelation of the inner life  
Face to face with the purposes for which we  
    were created  
A fire which consumes the dross  
Foregleams of the mercy that would save the  
    blackest sinner  
A deep knowledge of the things of God  
The delicate hand of a discerning nurse  
Far more exacting in its demands  
Submitted to the arbitrament of merciless justice

## *Clergymen*

---

### SERMON PHRASES—INVITATION

The Lord grant that we may possess his grace  
I am wonderfully glad that  
Thank God for the better impulse to  
How passing strange it is that  
I covet earnestly God's blessing upon us  
God grant that we may be wise  
May the eternal and unspotted life of blessedness  
infix itself in us  
Make no delay  
The very God of peace establish you  
May we yield our affections to God's control  
Seek help from the Mighty One  
Turn not away your ear  
He will uphold, bless, satisfy you  
Seek the sweet grace of Jesus  
You must know Redemption's theme  
God does not leave us to our discretion  
It is not an easy matter for God to save a sinner  
God would woo us into heavenly fellowships  
God has poured out a wealth of affection upon us  
Believe that God is behind what you say for him

### SERMON PHRASES—Joy

Brighten up the corner where you are  
Every cloud will wear a rain-bow if your heart  
keeps right

## *Joy*

---

The nameless responsive thrill of something deep  
within us

A treasure better than gold

Pleasures pure and lasting

Heaven's eternal spring

The song lifting its pæan out of the night

In the sweetest fellowship

Strains that sweetly soothe

The exquisite little joys of life

An atmosphere of tranquillity

A new-found joy

Tears of joy and gratitude

Joy which flows like a river

In joyful anticipation

With joyful enthusiasm

Possibilities of which we hardly dreamed

The sweet melodies of heaven

The great glad tidings

The glory of his grace

The sweetest name on earth

The blissful refuge

A balm for the weary

The very friend you need

The priceless gems of God's book

A joy divine

Songs of sweetest praise

A triumphant hope

Thrones of love



## *Clergymen*

---

A heaven of love  
The kingdom of light  
The fullness of his blessing  
The life-giving stream

### SERMON PHRASES—KINDNESS

Sympathies as wide as the world  
A sensibility as tender as it is refreshing  
Wider sympathy  
Of cosmopolitan sympathies  
Poverty-stricken in his sympathies  
World-wide sympathies  
A great soul  
The very heart of kindness  
Diffusing the gospel of kindliness  
The employments of active benevolence  
Full of kindly deeds  
The milk of human kindness  
A stray word of kindness  
Kinder than the kindest  
With utmost gentleness  
Of gentlest sympathy  
Of a kind and forgiving disposition  
They exchanged mutual assurances of continued  
    good will  
The secret of contented and fruitful living

## *Love*

---

The staple interests and occupations of the  
common life  
Heaven and earth brought into strange accord  
An unembittered disposition  
The sign of God-like charity  
Slow to speak ill of any one  
Beautiful in the eyes of fond affection  
A heaven of love in your heart  
A wonderfully kind heart  
Members of a forgiving family  
Sweet in disposition  
Glorifying God in the common round  
The gracious inclination of the will  
The outcome of a rich experience

### SERMON PHRASES—LOVE

He's the great heart-maker  
Winsomely and lovingly  
The sacrifices of love  
Matchless kindness  
Unwavering love  
A redeeming love-energy  
A glad service of love  
A legacy of love  
A flame of sacred love  
The sweet kingdom of God's love  
The wondrous story of God's love

## *Clergymen*

---

The wonderful words of life  
The genial flame of affection  
The marvel of His love  
The love that conquers  
Love divine, all loves excelling  
The glorious sense of the Divine right of love  
Made beautiful by Divine love  
The warm yearning intimacy of God's love  
The sweet and unpolluted flower of love  
The richest joys out of heaven  
If our bosom burns with the fires of love  
Love that translated us from alienation to  
family favor  
Love, pure, warm, and changeless  
Songs of redeeming love  
An eye of love  
A heaven of love  
Abounding love  
With undiminished love  
Love is the universal language  
What the world needs is love

### SERMON PHRASES—MANLINESS

The sanctifying love of a strong victorious **man**  
A patient, loving, uncomplaining soul  
A clear-eyed seer of the things of God  
An uncompromising foe of evil

## *Manliness*

---

Sagacious in spiritual things  
A mind full of vigorous hopeful uplifting thoughts  
He has a wonderful experience of grace  
He passed through the fires of affliction  
He is a graduate of the University of Difficulty  
We are resolved to lay no stumbling-blocks in  
the way of the progress of the redemption  
of the world  
We have the abiding consciousness that we are  
fundamentally right with God  
He is in the apostleship of spiritual beauty  
A great lover of mankind  
He takes a living, loving interest in men  
Moral worth  
Resolved not to depart from the channel of truth  
Holy in character  
A warmth of temperament  
Generous impulses  
The imposing grace of a noble self-restraint  
A chaste refinement of spirit  
Splendid reserve power  
Well content to go down to the grave unpraised  
Taking steps toward the threshold of heaven  
Walking in the blessed path of peace, power, and  
purity  
A nobility of life  
Worthy of more attention than it has yet re-  
ceived

## *Clergymen*

---

A worthy friend  
Hands full of character and delicacy  
With unfaltering lip and heart

### SERMON PHRASES—REDEMPTION

Washed white from crimson sins  
The process of becoming perfect  
The right temper of the soul  
The Divine hostility to sin  
Brought into saving relationship  
The ultimate purpose of redemption  
A redeemed fellowship  
The dynamics of the redeemed life  
In God's eternal economy  
The Divine method of doing things  
The splendors of redeeming grace  
The unspeakable humility of Calvary  
An eternal redemption  
The mysteries of redemption  
A wealth of unveiled glories  
Rich in sanctity, wisdom, and redemptive power

### SERMON PHRASES—SALVATION

Hearts sensitive to His presence  
Sweet with the perfume of God's breath  
A spotless splendor that holds us in fascination

## *Salvation*

---

To them that nestle down into his will, God is  
like a mother  
All the loving links that bind us to heaven  
The psalm of adoring lip  
The ceaseless exercise of reverence  
Tokens of His favor  
In those lofty moments when the soul is near  
God  
The riches of His great grace  
The river of rare and exquisite delights  
In the highest realms of aspiration  
A treasury of golden thoughts  
Elements which have the luster and precious-  
ness of pearls.  
Kept from the entanglements of sin  
A heart made pure and right  
The unforgettable memories of a pure home  
The purest of the pure  
A way of fortifying one's soul  
Moment by moment I'm kept in his love  
Steadfast in the strength of God, and true  
The free and kindly intimacies of the fireside  
The fair realities of the sanctified life  
The peaceful atmosphere of good will  
Make a covenant with your eyes lest sin get  
into your heart  
We must get corruption out of the heart for one  
never knows how it will betray

## *Clergymen*

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Enabled to act continually with integrity  
Free from narrow and selfish motives  
The grand truths of redemption  
The news of mercy  
The mighty Sacrifice  
The sons of peace  
The paths of peace  
The heavenly steeps  
The life-giving stream  
The glory of holiness  
The well-spread table  
The river of regenerating energy  
A joy-giving truth  
The sacred longing of the soul  
The enduring brotherhood  
A new ideal of plenty  
A beautiful faith  
The eternal spirit

### SERMON PHRASES—SORROW

Burdens pressing down upon head and heart  
A feeble lonely soul  
Heart longings  
A picture of despair  
A life of struggle, grief, and pain  
With inexpressible longings  
A struggling heart

## *Sacred*

---

The appalling darkness of Gethsemane  
The lonely way of isolation  
On a beach of wrecks  
He walked with bleeding feet the flinty path  
A figure of woe fit to melt the most obdurate heart  
The struggling myriads of the poor  
The noble army of martyrs  
Like a sad and poignant refrain  
The roots of bitterness

### SERMON PHRASES—SACRED

An infinitely loving and all-wise heart  
Worthy to receive endless praise  
Far up the everlasting hills in God's own light  
The hallowed beauty of the eternal God  
The glorious outlines of His holiness  
The pure pellucid waters of His grace  
Illumined by the indwelling of eternal light  
The presence of the most high God  
The all-wise and gracious counsels of God  
The unshadowed depths of eternal holiness  
The adoration of the eternal  
A celestial melody  
In resplendent glory  
In the mountains of God  
The great and blessed God who inhabits eternity  
The unblemished holiness of heaven



## *Clergymen*

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### SERMON PHRASES—VICTORY

The hour of opportunity  
It teems with the virile life of rugged men  
An aggressive moment  
One transcendent moment  
An insatiable thirst for knowledge  
With loving urgency  
On the victory side  
I was splendidly heartened by  
Into the large and beautiful realm of the spirit  
The word of magnificent promise  
A mastery of the obscure problems of life  
The full current of Divine power  
Expanding the social ministry of Jesus  
A fine swinging step born of a happy confidence  
A profound and refreshing satisfaction  
The reckless joy of the Lord

### SERMON PHRASES—UNCLASSIFIED

Love-compelled  
Idle-scorning  
Heavy-laden souls  
Redeeming grace  
Kind designs  
Mutual burdens  
Plentiful redemption

## *Unclassified*

---

Eternal councils  
Spiritual penetration  
Gracious surprises  
Pure delight  
Transforming grace  
Toilsome years  
Impure ambition  
Spiritual progress  
Spiritual confusion



## IV

### Phrases for Letter-Writers



## *Letters of Condolence*

---

### FOR LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE

Be assured of my deep sympathy with you in  
this time of great sorrow

I know too well that words cannot comfort you  
Trusting that you will see the bright side of the  
dark cloud—I am with deep sympathy  
your friend

How can I attempt to comfort you in the bitter  
affliction which has befallen you

Would there were more like ——

I regret to hear of your continued indisposition  
and hope that before long you may return  
to your wonted good health

A sweet and uncomplaining spirit

I should rejoice if I could be with you

I can only send my sympathy and best wishes  
for your speedy and complete recovery

Courage—hope remains

Time will heal many heartaches

May the Father of Mercies give you the rich  
consolation of His grace and preserve and  
strengthen you for your family

May you be sustained in this most bitter trial

## Letter-Writers

---

May you live in the confidence that — is in  
the enjoyment of everlasting happiness  
With a prayer for every blessing on yourself,  
Affectionately your friend.

It is a great comfort to us that  
Words are inadequate to express my feelings  
There are times when one cannot express him-  
self in written words  
The pen refuses to express adequately my sym-  
pathy to you  
I sympathize keenly with you in the loss of your  
excellent

They are not lost to us  
God will surely give you a kindly guidance in  
this hour of trial

The intimations of a future life shall some day  
be realized and we shall see and know again  
those whom we have "loved, and lost  
awhile."

Many beautiful traits made up his character  
I join with you and his other friends in mourn-  
ing his death most sincerely

It shocked me very much  
I have heard with the greatest distress of  
I had learned to have a very warm feeling  
for

I had been intimately enough associated with  
him to feel that I knew him very well

## *Letters of Condolence*

---

I know that your heart must be sorely grieved  
God shall overcome this King of terrors  
It is written, "As thy days so shall thy strength  
be"

We expect to see our loved ones in happier,  
brighter worlds above

God is able to soothe and sustain the distressed  
soul

May God's love shine more and more in our  
hearts until the day breaks and the shadows  
flee away

His name was never mentioned in public with-  
out the most tender regard

He careth for you

A stronghold in the day of trouble

A covert from the storm

We unite in sending our love and sympathy  
With warm regards

We beg you to accept our commiseration

Our hearts sorrow with you

He is such a very great comfort to us

We are uplifted by the assurance that

A light which sorrow cannot quench

We must all wait the call of God with a calm  
trust

Let me have the comfort of hearing from  
you

The hand of God has been heavy



## *Letter-Writers*

---

We must live in the blessed anticipation of the  
glory that is to come  
Do not fear, for God knows what is in your heart  
Your path seems full of thorns  
Your weather is bleak, but the storms will cease  
Your sky is dark, but the sun shines  
May the Everlasting Arms sustain you in the  
flood of sorrow  
May God comfort you  
Out of the thorn springeth the rose  
I know you are in grief and heaviness  
We commend you to the mercy and grace of God  
The bitterness of affliction  
The present floods of sorrow  
You will have to cast your anchor in the dark  
May your heart be constant  
The Lord will surely give you rest from the days  
of adversity  
I would that you should always have the sweet  
experience of the consolations of God  
We all have the good will of Him who dwelt in  
the bush  
My heart is heavy for you  
We must wait till the fair morning of the resur-  
rection  
I write my blessing, earnest prayers, the love  
of God, and the sweet presence of Christ  
to you and yours

## *Letters of Condolence*

---

Cast thy burden upon the Lord  
Thou hast known my soul in adversities  
I know their sorrows  
A refuge from the storm  
A shadow from the heat  
In the furnace of affliction  
I will hedge up thy way with thorns  
Tribulation worketh patience  
Our light affliction  
In all their affliction he was afflicted  
He healeth the broken in heart  
For a small moment have I forgotten thee but  
with great mercies will I gather thee  
God that comforteth those that are cast down  
comfort you  
We shall have to bear our crosses with meekness  
and patience  
So good a friend is capable of making any calam-  
ity light  
The great loss you have sustained has caused  
me much uneasiness  
I know not how to express my sorrow at the  
news which I have just received  
That God may give you great consolation under  
this heavy burden is my fervent prayer  
I should be glad if I could suggest anything to  
lighten your trouble and make your path  
a little more smooth and easy

## *Letter-Writers*

---

The grateful sense of your kindness will never  
be erased from my mind

If my services can in any way assist you do not  
hesitate to ask for them

I am sincerely sorry to hear of your loss

He carried the riches of God within himself

He was a royal-hearted man

We are greatly afflicted by the melancholy intelligence which reached us that

I knew the sterling integrity of his character

May God breathe into your heart peace and  
cheerful resignation

My mind is filled with very grateful memories

He was greatly beloved

I fall back upon a very delightful verse of Scripture: "He is able to subdue all things unto himself."

My heart is filled with the deepest gratitude as  
I think of

We send our earnest wishes for your speedy  
recovery

My most affectionate regards to

You seem to have your full share of human  
vicissitudes

He had such a fund of courage and good  
cheer

Dear, sweet, loving mother

A letter replete with tenderness and affection

## *Letters of Condolence*

---

Such a sad circumstance has come to you  
Your sorrow's night  
When one's heart is unspeakably tender,  
We extend our heartfelt sympathy  
In your hour of trial  
She was such a beautiful character, loved by  
every one  
In these lonely hours you must not be cast down  
for there is help from God  
His Word says that they that wait upon Him  
shall renew their strength  
She was God's good angel in your home  
Grief that saps the heart  
I account you mine  
His name will long linger in our household  
We must be brave in the face of trying circum-  
stances  
Of gracious memory  
She bears up with the utmost fortitude  
I received the melancholy intelligence last  
evening that  
He was the kindest, and most generous of men  
The sweet remembrance of the just  
A workman that needeth not to be ashamed  
If God be for us who can be against us  
Of whom the world was not worthy  
Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth  
Let not your heart be troubled

## *Letter-Writers*

---

All things work together for good to them that  
love God  
A bruised reed shall he not break  
Many daughters have done virtuously but thou  
excellest them all  
It is better to go to the house of mourning than  
to the house of feasting  
He giveth his beloved sleep  
A very present help in trouble  
We took sweet counsel together  
God will take us into their goodly company some  
glad day  
Glimpses of the reality which we instinctively  
feel will sometime be ours  
The unmeasured things of hope which God has  
prepared for men  
Our lives we must humbly commit to the guid-  
ing hand whose blessing we adore  
Filled with strong consolation  
There are many avenues by which God would  
come in and richly bless us  
He had the secret of keeping the sacred fires  
aglow  
He knew the deep principles of experimental  
religion  
Ordinary consolations do not avail us  
He knew the secret of beautiful living  
He was a silent witness of right living

## *Letters of Thanks*

---

Many admiring friends  
One who ministered so carefully and tenderly  
All the more tragic because  
And this thought will be our comfort that  
Of gentle presence  
All the gentle virtues came into full blossom  
Looking forward with a Christian's bright  
    anticipation of a glad reunion  
Persisted in keeping mind and spirit on the  
    sunny side of life however hard the trials  
    and difficulties  
Mother's fortitude and hopefulness is a lesson  
    to us all  
We send our united and sincere condolences  
The news of your painful loss has been a great  
    surprise to me  
I have read of your bereavement with the deep-  
    est sorrow

### FOR LETTERS OF THANKS

I am sending this letter as the silent messenger  
    of my thanks and good wishes to you  
I must find some way to make due acknowledg-  
    ment of your goodness to me  
I trust I may be able to do you some service,  
    that I may be worthy of your kind appro-  
    bation

## *Letter-Writers*

---

I will not write more but wait until a better opportunity enables me to more fully express myself

Please allow me to send my most thankful acknowledgments for the favor you have conferred upon me

I know not how to express my grateful thanks for your

The grateful sense I have of your kindness will never be erased from my mind

I take this first opportunity to send you my thanks for

You have exceedingly obliged me by

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of

I am grateful to you for your kind expression of sympathy

Though your kind letter has waited so long for a reply, you may be assured that I was not unmindful of its messages of sympathy

Please accept my warmest thanks for your kindness

I am deeply indebted to you for

I received your very agreeable letter, and hasten to give you my most hearty thanks for your

I thank you for your hospitality

We had a most delightful time while with you.

Please accept this little memento of our regard

## *Christmas Letters*

---

### CONCLUDING CLAUSES FOR CHRISTMAS LETTERS

I send you tender tidings of regard this Christmas Day

I hope you will lack nothing to make a Merry Christmas

On this day I think of you, and wish you happiness without limit

May all joys combine to give you a happy Christmas Day

With best wishes and heartiest greetings for Christmas

I wish you a joyful Christmas from the bottom of my heart

With kind remembrances and all good wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Bright New Year

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a New Year of health and happiness

The best of good wishes for a happy Christmas

May Christmas bring you plenteous store of happiness and joy

Heaps of Christmas wishes

With the kindest thoughts and the best of good wishes for a happy Christmas

I heartily send all good Christmas wishes to you and yours.



## *Letter-Writers*

---

### CONCLUDING CLAUSES FOR NEW YEAR LETTERS

May this New Year turn out to be the happiest  
and the best

With best New Year wishes

May all your plans and wishes come true in  
this New Year

A happy New Year

May the New Year be a happy year for you

A joyous New Year

With all best wishes for a splendid New Year

With all the kindest wishes for good health and  
good fortune throughout the year

With my most hearty greetings and sincere  
good wishes for you for all the coming year

With best wishes for a year of great blessing

May the New Year be full of the kindest bene-  
dictions

With kind wishes for a year of the brightest  
prospects

## V

# Phrases for Writers and Public Speakers



## *Introductory Clauses*

---

### INTRODUCTORY CLAUSES

I am credibly informed that  
I respectfully decline to take any part in  
I did not think fit to remonstrate  
I could not be but favorably disposed toward a  
    people  
It struck me forcibly  
I consider their action most reprehensible  
You must often have remarked that  
I confess it is not without trepidation that  
I am not disposed to think that  
I saw how thoroughly he was duped  
It was clear to me that  
I was struck dumb by  
To my inexpressible delight  
I had little inclination to  
I have no less an authority for the statement than  
The trouble with us poor mortals is  
From my personal point of view  
I note with satisfaction that  
I cannot help suspecting that  
I have generally observed that  
I have many choice recollections of  
I had the good fortune to be

## *Writers and Public Speakers*

---

You will hardly credit it but  
It frets my soul to see  
I am desirous of establishing some kind of a  
relationship between  
He works on the assumption that  
I forbear to enter into the minute particulars of  
I am thankful to have been the means of  
I throw this out as a good subject of  
What I was going to observe was  
I am always deeply and vividly impressed by  
I am ready to guarantee that  
I have been fortunate enough to  
I assert without fear of successful contradiction that  
I am free to admit that  
I have repeatedly urged that  
I am most heartily in favor of  
I have carefully inquired into the  
It is immaterial to me whether  
I am constrained to think that  
I will not let such a remark go unchallenged  
He is conversant with the situation  
I have now ample cause to affirm that  
He took up the cudgels in favor of  
Have you never been struck with the similarity  
between  
I will hazard the observation that  
I am convinced that in his heart he

## *Introductory Clauses*

---

If it be true, as is predicted, that  
It is a matter of the simplest demonstration that  
The apparently inevitable conclusion is that  
It is self-evident that  
It is a very rare occurrence that  
We cannot resist the conviction that  
It can fairly be suspected that  
For obvious reasons there are  
It is nothing less than amazing to find that  
A marked example of similar tendencies is to be  
    found in  
In view, therefore, of  
It goes without saying that  
It will be noted that  
To an extent probably never known before the  
There is little reason to anticipate that the  
Nevertheless, a large number fail to understand  
    the perfectly obvious conclusion that  
After allowing for all probabilities and possibilities we find that  
This was largely due to the fact that  
It is remarkable that  
We have a comfortable conviction that  
It cannot be without significance that  
A safe rule to observe is  
A startling possibility is  
There is ample assurance that  
The wonder of wonders is

## *Writers and Public Speakers*

---

The program here suggested is grounded in the conviction that

The primary requisites of

Allowing something for the possibility of error we

And it should not be forgotten that

It is worthy of remark that

This is essentially a time for

The evidence is overwhelming that

Nothing is more fallacious than

· We must rectify the errors of

It is poor policy to

It is interesting if true

It is strikingly illustrated by

It does not matter how improbable the prospects may be

It is an error that leads to the most pernicious consequences to imagine that

It is universally conceded that

On the whole it is amusing to find that

The most interesting phase of the situation is

It is significant that

As a matter of fact

It will be remembered that

There can be no two opinions that

It cannot be maintained that

Even so, it is only a question of

It is interesting to note that

The redeeming feature of it all is

## *Introductory Clauses*

---

Very likely the explanation lies in the fact that  
While it is understood that  
His point is not germane to the subject  
There are some who go instinctively to the  
    bottom of any matter  
At all events  
To put it tersely  
It is too late to lament the  
The argument is not so convincing to the mod-  
    ern mind  
The prime reason for  
Ordinary prudence would suggest that  
Every mother's son of us will follow suit when  
It is not for me to dictate but simply for me to  
    suggest that  
It is well within the bounds of conservative  
    statement to state that  
Many desirable reforms would be accomplished  
    if  
How much faster the chariot of progress would  
    advance if  
How many struggling little enterprises would  
    gain a solid underpinning if  
It is rather a nice point whether  
This will lead us by the shortest cut to the con-  
    clusion that  
It is beyond all contradiction a more happy situ-  
    ation than can ever be promised by



## *Writers and Public Speakers*

---

If we are to make a fair show in the world we  
must

This is not an uncommon kind of prejudice

A very vital equation in the problem is

The antecedent probability is

The argument is thoroughly convincing if

The incontrovertible evidences are

There is something wholesome in all of this if

There is always something to admire if

There is no mistaking the qualities which

It was nothing short of a crime for

In these days it is refreshing to see

And has it come to this that

There is little chance of

There is no longer any doubt that

It may be maintained with equal plausibility  
that

It might be worse if

We have cause for profound satisfaction in that

What a splendid thing it is to be able to say that

It is the acme of folly to

It is indispensably necessary that

The conclusion cannot be escaped that

It is idle to speculate on the outcome of

It was clearly apparent that

It is extremely necessary that

It is pretty good evidence that

It has been proved that

## *Introductory Clauses*

---

It was found that  
It is yet to be demonstrated that  
It is out of the question to  
If the truth were known  
There is no gainsaying the fact that  
A pity it is that  
The crucial question is  
Excuses are not reasons, therefore  
It comes as a refreshing surprise to learn that  
It is utterly unbelievable that  
One of the great outstanding features of  
It goes without saying that  
An unusual amount of discrimination is demanded in  
However that may be, we  
Notwithstanding the fact that  
It is virtually certain that  
It is surprising how  
It is chronicled that  
It seems eminently fitting that  
It is imperative that  
From a narrow notion of human duty men imagine that  
Who has not remarked the readiness with which the  
We should be devoutly thankful for  
We are willing to go to any reasonable length if  
Well has it been said that

## *Writers and Public Speakers*

---

It is sterling sense to  
It is worthy of remark that  
They will hardly have the effrontery to deny  
that  
It transpires, as many suspected, that  
One of the most significant items was  
It is not enough that  
It is a fact of tremendous significance that  
The advantages are so manifold that  
These facts amply confirm the opinion that  
One of the unavoidable sources of  
Almost anything might have been expected from  
Despite all this the  
It is true that  
The notable feature of it all is  
It is hardly too much to say that if  
It is barely possible that  
It is absolutely useless to expect that  
Incidentally, it is interesting to observe that  
This does not mean, however,  
In view of the assertion that  
Persistent efforts are being made to create the  
impression that  
There can be no question that  
The entire system is founded upon the recogni-  
tion of the soundness of the contention that  
There never has been a time in our history  
when

## *Introductory Clauses*

---

Few persons will question that if it had not been  
for

It is time that

It is rank foolishness to think that

And it may be noted that

This condition is due in large measure to the  
fact that

It is hardly possible that

Men have frequently fancied that

To the rightly perceiving mind it would appear  
that

A little reflection will easily convince anyone  
that

It is remarkable that

Little hope is cherished that

No secret is made of the fact that

It was anticipated that

The opinion has been everywhere expressed  
that

In the event of

In other words

Furthermore

Notwithstanding

Nevertheless

These words are not a little surprising because

One can hardly go astray in believing that

On the whole

For after all

## *Writers and Public Speakers\**

---

It is not outside the realm of possibility that  
We have no doubt whatever that  
In fact, we are in a position to state that  
It is still an open question whether

## VI

### Happy Combinations



## *Happy Combinations*

---

### HAPPY COMBINATIONS

Genuine gratification  
Unmixed approbation  
Conspicuous examples  
Highly creditable  
Beautifully attired  
Exquisite fitness  
Unfailing variety  
Extremely vague  
Boon companions  
Substantial benefits  
Manifold iniquities  
Conflicting accusations  
Tender sensibilities  
Unquestioning faith  
Fawning praise  
Languid dullness  
Egregious blunders  
Perverse antipathies  
Quite superfluous  
Weak-based impressions  
Inexhaustible resources  
Crude civilization  
Inadequate treatment



## *Happy Combinations*

---

Pleasant conceits  
Daring speculations  
Too intricate  
Exalted principles  
More pliable  
Augured evil  
Mutual fidelity  
Fine qualities  
Implicit confidence  
Hard facts  
Ample opportunity  
Rightly named  
Apparent misfortune  
Deep-rooted convictions  
Drastic counsel  
Hardly decent  
Painfully prevalent  
Ulterior designs  
Fine enthusiasm  
Homely simplicity  
Petty malice  
Irritating trifles  
Special fondness  
Mental elasticity  
Various foibles  
Frank delight  
Speechless misery  
Strong and deep-rooted beliefs

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Capital sport  
Untrammeled self-expression  
Utter destitution  
Untutored judgments  
Rigid economy  
Wide celebrity  
Solid reasons  
Over-strained authority  
Profoundly influential  
Exorbitant prices  
Sound economics  
Extremely prepossessing  
Cold calculations  
Fanatical opposition  
Swashbuckling heroes  
Exceptionally good  
Acutely sensible  
Doubly striking  
Quite frequently  
Impressive language  
Practically impossible  
New-fangled notions  
Highly desirable  
Idle dreams  
Legitimate desires  
Directly involved  
Gross injustice  
Unrelaxing care

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Capricious ways  
Splendid enterprise  
Shattered hope  
Hot indignation  
Honied flattery  
Parental regrets  
Flimsy finery  
Loose thinking  
Social cohesion  
Vast ideals  
Mental slovenliness  
Refined perceptions  
Primary thoughts  
Gracious thoughts  
Willful exaggeration  
Unnecessary unkindness  
Sadly lacking in tender and generous sentiments  
Foolish and pernicious talk  
Most reprehensible  
Downright rudeness  
Sentimental inanity  
Positively asinine  
A poor cheap, tawdry business  
In an abysmally inferior way  
The most intolerable nuisance  
The basest treachery  
Utterly futile as well as mischievous  
Utterly inadequate

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Palpably unjustified  
Wholly unauthorized  
Utterly ineffective  
Absolutely immaterial  
Persistently hostile  
Woefully mistaken  
Notoriously unreliable  
Altogether obtuse  
Mentally incapacitated  
The sum of all villainies  
Unutterably wearisome  
A piece of stupid management  
Picayunish prudence  
Absolutely inexplicable  
Cold facts  
Militant hostility  
Arrant nonsense  
Invincible ignorance  
Domestic felicity  
Lucid explanation  
Thoroughly wholesome  
True inwardness  
Decidedly handsome  
Remarkably fine  
Officious prognostications  
Prodigiously stupid  
Respectable alliances  
Sanguine views

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Frequent opportunities  
Judicious praise  
Absolutely unnecessary  
Amiable qualities  
Unquestionably advantageous  
Hearty concurrence  
Peculiarly becoming  
Awkward circumstances  
Remarkably pretty  
Highly agreeable  
Supercilious nonsense  
Sorely tried  
Dauntless perseverance  
Social obligations  
Grandly simple  
Halting expediency  
Absolute frankness  
Countless irritations  
Great compensations  
Worth while  
Pious reflections  
Ill tidings  
Strong temptations  
Basal energies  
Unsuspected wealth  
Flat blasphemy  
Utter insufficiency  
Gross negligence

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Financial distress  
Sincerely unpretentious  
Conspicuous ability  
Prim propriety  
Invariably practiced  
Haphazard thoughts  
Lasting acquisitions  
Shrewd guesses  
Rare sagacity  
Snugly ensconced  
Quite apathetic  
Dilettante tastes  
Blunting drudgery  
Foundation beliefs  
Irksome tasks  
Drooping spirits  
Charming surprises  
Radiant hopes  
Instinctive delights  
Discontented days  
Inherent dislikes  
Cool courtesies  
Surpassing merits  
Particularly opprobrious  
Joyously happy  
Uncannily quiet  
Very sparingly  
Indubitable facts

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Abundant opportunities  
Collateral causes  
Sterling truth  
Extravagant conjectures  
Sedulously watching  
Almost invariably  
Unmistakable evidence  
Sound judgment  
Laudable purposes  
Neatly arranged  
Beautifully clean  
Ample proofs  
Sane judgment  
Remote horizons  
Headstrong youths  
Well-matured convictions  
Excessive loquacity  
Contributory negligence  
Overweening pretensions  
Blind blunders  
Obsequious servants  
Genuinely glad  
Keen reproach  
Nimble-minded  
Adroit questioning  
Absolutely refused  
Highly educated  
Above mediocrity

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Ready wit  
Of inestimable value  
Truly admirable  
Filial reverence  
Gross unfitness  
Greater efficiency  
Sober memories  
Intense protestation  
Flagrant violation  
Scathing criticism  
Thoroughly ingenuous  
Official primacy  
Perfectly asinine  
Instinctive delight  
Rigidly orthodox  
Utterly worthless  
Unproved assertions  
Approximate results  
Ill-concealed contempt  
Reckless speculation  
Measureless eras  
Grateful acknowledgments  
Signal benefactions  
Widespread traditions  
Rival claimants  
Superabounding liberality  
Scrupulous care  
Distinctive features



## *Happy Combinations*

---

Altered circumstances  
Serious complications  
Grievous troubles  
Striking illustrations  
Turbulent times  
Graphic descriptions  
Conclusive evidence  
Vehement denunciation  
Tame and prosaic  
Obstinate resistance  
Utterly unreliable  
Graceful selfishness  
Due consideration  
Utterly incredible  
Maligned and misrepresented  
Fickle and irresolute  
Consummate skill  
Specious pretenses  
Atrociously bad  
Singularly appropriate  
Prayerful meditation  
Well-authenticated testimony  
Comparatively modern  
Strong conviction  
Wretched poverty  
Athletic prowess  
Intrinsic worth  
Unblushing disobedience

## *Happy Combinations*

---

Pernicious practices  
Intrinsic interest  
Puissant efforts  
Deleterious influences  
Nice distinctions  
Broad discriminations  
Social amenities  
Nicely married  
Well disposed  
Well-bred  
Well-connected  
Foolish energies  
Useless retrospection  
Injurious impressions  
Dangerous propensities  
Dark prejudice  
Long-cherished opinions  
Impartial judgments  
Merciless exposure  
Lavish expenditure  
A clinching appeal  
A ready response  
Of deepest import  
A powerful inducement  
A sober judgment  
A well-worn theme  
A trustworthy account  
A commercial instinct

## *Happy Combinations*

---

An impassive spectator  
An unassuming manner  
A cruel absurdity  
A pernicious tendency  
A rare accomplishment  
A constructive program  
An acquired taste  
A wide acquaintance  
A practical impossibility  
A complete overhauling  
A disturbing influence  
A sharp emergency  
An urgent warning  
An itching palm  
A carnal desire  
A perilous sleep  
An imposing appearance  
A vicious circle  
A prodigious curiosity  
A mendacious statement  
A disastrous slump  
A well-grounded prejudice  
An inextricable dilemma  
A noble way  
A drawn struggle  
A bold control  
An inexcusable fault  
A serious annoyance

## *Happy Combinations*

---

A grave fault

A contemptible misanthropy

An irreducible minimum

A negligible quantity

An easy explanation

A counter irritant

A base intruder

A conservative bias

A healthy reaction



## VII

### Sample Letters



## *Sample Letters*

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### CONDOLATORY

MY DEAR —,

We were exceedingly sorry to learn of your bereavement. There are many whom we have "loved and lost awhile." But God will take us into their goodly company some glad day. We unite in sending our sincere sympathy.

With warm regards,

MY DEAR —,

We are greatly afflicted by the melancholy intelligence which has reached us that — is no more with us. He carried the riches of God within himself, and was a royal-hearted man. He was greatly beloved by all of us. With a prayer for every blessing on yourself,

Affectionately, your friend,

MY DEAR FRIEND,

It is with great regret that we learn of the sad occurrence at your home. Please accept our united and sincere condolences.

With deepest sympathy,



## *Sample Letters*

---

### REPLY TO CONDOLATORY

MY DEAR —,

I am very grateful for your kind expression of sympathy. My heart is filled with gratitude when I think of my good friends.

Sincerely yours,

MY DEAR —,

I thank you kindly for your consoling letter. Though I have waited some time to reply, its messages were none the less deeply appreciated.

Your friend,

### THANKS

MY DEAR —,

I am sending this short note as a silent messenger of my thanks to you. I had a most delightful visit at your home.

Cordially yours,

MY DEAR —,

Please allow me to send my most thankful acknowledgments for the favor you have conferred upon me. I trust I may be able some time to do a service for you.

Sincerely yours,

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